

Psalm 49:1-20 **Warning against trusting in personal wealth**

*The Confidence of the Foolish*

To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of the sons of Korah.

- 1 Hear this, all peoples; Give ear, all inhabitants of the world,  
2 Both low and high, Rich and poor together.  
3 My mouth shall speak wisdom, And the meditation of my heart *shall give* understanding.  
4 I will incline my ear to a proverb; I will disclose my dark saying on the harp.
- 5 Why should I fear in the days of evil, *When* the iniquity at my heels surrounds me?  
6 Those who trust in their wealth And boast in the multitude of their riches,  
7 None *of them* can by any means redeem *his* brother, Nor give to Elohiym (God) a ransom for him –  
8 For the redemption of their souls *is* costly, And it shall cease forever –  
9 That he should continue to live eternally, *And* not see the Pit.  
10 For he sees wise men die; Likewise the fool and the senseless person perish, And leave their wealth to others.  
11 Their inner thought *is that* their houses *will last* forever, \* Their dwelling places to all generations; They call *their* lands after their own names.  
12 Nevertheless man, *though* in honor, does not remain; He is like the beasts *that* perish.  
13 This is the way of those who *are* foolish, And of their posterity who approve their sayings.

Selah

- 14 Like sheep they are laid in the grave; Death shall feed on them; The upright shall have dominion over them in the morning; And their beauty shall be consumed in the grave, far from their dwelling.  
15 But Elohiym (God) will redeem my soul from the power of the grave, For He shall receive me.

Selah

- 16 Do not be afraid when one becomes rich, When the glory of his house is increased;  
17 For when he dies he shall carry nothing away; His glory shall not descend after him.  
18 Though while he lives he blesses himself (For *men* will praise you when you do well for yourself),  
19 He shall go to the generation of his fathers; They shall never see light.  
20 A man *who is* in honor, yet does not understand, Is like the beasts *that* perish.

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Facts Revealed:

- ☆ Hear this, all peoples; Give ear, all inhabitants of the world,  
Both low and high, Rich and poor together.

My mouth shall speak wisdom, And the meditation of my heart *shall give* understanding.

I will incline my ear to a proverb; I will disclose my dark saying on the harp. [Psalm 49:1-4]

- ✧ The message is to **all peoples** of the world.
- ✧ The writer for the sons of Korah will do his best to give understanding.
- ✧ The message is given with the sound of the harp.
- ☆ Why should I fear in the days of evil, *When* the iniquity at my heels surrounds me? Those who trust in their wealth And boast in the multitude of their riches, None *of them* can by any means redeem *his* brother, Nor give to Elohiym (God) a ransom for him –  
For the redemption of their souls *is* costly, And it shall cease forever –  
That he should continue to live eternally, *And* not see the Pit.  
For he sees wise men die; Likewise the fool and the senseless person perish, And leave their wealth to others.  
Their inner thought *is that* their houses *will last* forever, \* Their dwelling places to all generations; They call *their* lands after their own names.  
Nevertheless man, *though* in honor, does not remain; He is like the beasts *that* perish.  
This is the way of those who *are* foolish, And of their posterity who approve their sayings. [Psalm 49:5-13]
- ✧ There is no reason for the righteous to fear when surrounded by foolish self centered self-absorbed people.
- ✧ They trust in their wealth and boast of their riches.
- ✧ They do not consider their latter end or that they will die and leave their wealth to others.
- ✧ Even a man in honor will die as do the beasts.
- ✧ Redemption of the soul is costly and the wealth of the rich cannot buy it.
- ✧ Only the blood of Messiah can purchase our redemption. [Ephesians 1:7, Colossians 1:13-14]
- ☆ Like sheep they are laid in the grave; Death shall feed on them;  
The upright shall have dominion over them in the morning; And their beauty shall be consumed in the grave, far from their dwelling.  
But Elohiym (God) will redeem my soul from the power of the grave, For He shall receive me. [Psalm 49:14-15]
- ✧ The self focused people are compared to sheep who die and decay in the grave.
- ✧ The upright will have dominion over them on the day of judgment.
- ✧ But the writer has confidence that Elohiym will redeem his soul and receive him.
- ☆ Do not be afraid when one becomes rich, When the glory of his house is increased; For when he dies he shall carry nothing away; His glory shall not descend after him. Though while he lives he blesses himself (For *men* will praise you when you do well for yourself),  
He shall go to the generation of his fathers; They shall never see light.  
A man *who is* in honor, yet does not understand, Is like the beasts *that* perish. [Psalm 49:16-20]
- ✧ Do not envy a self-absorbed people because when he dies he takes nothing with him.
- ✧ He shall perish and join all those who were before him on the day of judgment.