

Psalms 49

Chapter 49 of 150 · 20 Verses · Authorized King James Version

The Folly of Trusting in Riches

- 1** Hear this, all ye people; give ear, all ye inhabitants of the world:
- 2** Both low and high, rich and poor, together.
- 3** My mouth shall speak of wisdom; and the meditation of my heart shall be of understanding.
- 4** I will incline mine ear to a parable: I will open my dark saying upon the harp.

- 5** Wherefore should I fear in the days of evil, when the iniquity of my heels shall compass me about?
- 6** They that trust in their wealth, and boast themselves in the multitude of their riches;
- 7** None of them can by any means redeem his brother, nor give to God a ransom for him:
- 8** (For the redemption of their soul is precious, and it ceaseth for ever:)
- 9** That he should still live for ever, and not see corruption.
- 10** For he seeth that wise men die, likewise the fool and the brutish person perish, and leave their wealth to others.
- 11** Their inward thought is, that their houses shall continue for ever, and their dwelling places to all generations; they call their lands after their own names.

12 Nevertheless man being in honour abideth not: he is like the beasts that perish.

13 This their way is their folly: yet their posterity approve their sayings. Selah.

14 Like sheep they are laid in the grave; death shall feed on them; and the upright shall have dominion over them in the morning; and their beauty shall consume in the grave from their dwelling.

15 But God will redeem my soul from the power of the grave: for he shall receive me. Selah.

16 Be not thou afraid when one is made rich, when the glory of his house is increased;

17 For when he dieth he shall carry nothing away: his glory shall not descend after him.

18 Though while he lived he blessed his soul: and men will praise thee, when thou doest well to thyself.

19 He shall go to the generation of his fathers; they shall never see light.

20 Man that is in honour, and understandeth not, is like the beasts that perish.

HEBREW & GREEK WORD STUDIES

Glory — כָּבוֹד (Kavod)

Glory, weight, honor

The Hebrew **kavod** (כָּבוֹד) literally means 'weight' or 'heaviness,' metaphorically denoting glory, honor, or majesty. God's glory (Shekinah) filled the tabernacle (Exodus 40:34) and temple (1 Kings 8:11).

God — אֱלֹהִים (Elohim)

God (plural of majesty)

The Hebrew **Elohim** (אֱלֹהִים) is a plural form denoting majesty and fullness of deity. Though grammatically plural, it takes singular verbs when referring to the one true God, suggesting the Trinity's plurality within unity.

Iniquality — הַיּוֹן (Avon)

Iniquality, guilt, punishment

The Hebrew **avon** (הַיּוֹן) encompasses iniquality, guilt, and its punishment—the twisted nature of sin. 'The LORD hath laid on him the iniquality of us all' (Isaiah 53:6), Christ bearing our guilt and penalty.

Redeem — רָאַת (Gaal)

To redeem, act as kinsman-redeemer

The Hebrew **gaal** (רָאַת) means to redeem or act as kinsman-redeemer (go'el)—buying back family property or relatives. It foreshadows Christ redeeming His people through His blood.

CROSS REFERENCES

Psalms 49:1 **Parallel theme:** Psalms 33:8; 34:11; 78:1; Isaiah 49:6; Matthew 11:15; Romans 3:29; 10:18; Revelation 2:7; 2:17; 2:29

Psalms 49:2 **Parallel theme:** Psalms 62:9; Job 34:19; Proverbs 22:2

Psalms 49:3 **Parallel theme:** Psalms 19:14; 37:30; 45:1; 119:130; Deuteronomy 32:2; Job 33:3; 33:33; Proverbs 22:17; Matthew 12:35

Psalms 49:4

Darkness: Psalms 78:2; Numbers 12:8; Proverbs 1:6. **Parallel theme:** Numbers 23:7; Matthew 13:35

Psalms 49:5 **Parallel theme:** Acts 27:24

Psalms 49:6

Faith: Psalms 52:7; Mark 10:24; 1 Timothy 6:17. **Parallel theme:** Jeremiah 9:23

Psalms 49:7 **Parallel theme:** Matthew 16:26; 25:9. **Redemption:** Matthew 20:28; 1 Peter 1:18

Psalms 49:8 **Parallel theme:** Matthew 16:26

Psalms 49:9 **Parallel theme:** Psalms 16:10; 89:48

Psalms 49:10 **Parallel theme:** Psalms 39:6; 73:22; 94:8; Proverbs 30:2; Jeremiah 10:8; Luke 12:20; Hebrews 9:27

Psalms 49:11

Parallel theme: Psalms 5:9; 10:6; 64:6; Genesis 4:17; 2 Samuel 18:18; Ezekiel 38:10

Psalms 49:12 **Parallel theme:** Psalms 39:5; 49:20; 82:7; Ecclesiastes 9:12

Psalms 49:13 **Parallel theme:** Luke 12:20; 1 Corinthians 3:19

Psalms 49:14

Parallel theme: Psalms 39:11; Job 30:23; Daniel 7:22; Malachi 4:3; Luke 22:30; Romans 8:36; 1 Corinthians 6:2

Psalms 49:15 **Parallel theme:** Psalms 73:24; 86:13; 89:48; Luke 23:46. **References God:** Psalms 56:13; Genesis 5:24; Acts 7:59. **Redemption:** Psalms 31:5; Hosea 13:14; Revelation 5:9

Psalms 49:16 **Parallel theme:** Psalms 37:7. **Glory:** Revelation 21:24; 21:26

Psalms 49:17 **Parallel theme:** Job 27:19; Luke 16:24; 1 Timothy 6:7. **Glory:** 1 Corinthians 15:43

Psalms 49:18 **Blessing:** Deuteronomy 29:19. **Parallel theme:** Luke 12:19

Psalms 49:19 **Light:** Psalms 56:13; Job 33:30. **Parallel theme:** Genesis 15:15

Psalms 49:20 **Parallel theme:** Psalms 49:12

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