

A Study of the Wisdom Literature (OT Survey Lesson 208—Psalms 11-13)

Introduction: Delitzsch suggests that the 11th psalm might have been occasioned by those whose faith was weakening as they saw the advance of Absalom's rebellion. The 12th psalm is also written against a background of increasing wickedness in Israel. In the 13th psalm David urges God to help him in trouble.

Lesson aim: To show the need keep trusting God even when those around us become unfaithful.

A psalm of confidence in God's protection when faith is failing—Psalm 11:1-7

1. Who did David say was his refuge? (v. 1) What counsel had some given to him? (v. 1b) Why? (v. 2)
2. What question do those who propose that David flee ask him? (v. 3) What are they suggesting by the question?
3. Instead of fleeing, what does David affirm about the Lord? (v. 4) What does God do there? (v. 4b-5)
4. What is God's attitude toward the wicked? (v. 5) With what shall they be punished? (v. 6) Why?
5. What will happen to the righteous? (v. 7)

A plea to God for help in view of progressing unfaithfulness among men—Psalm 12:1-8

1. With what plea does this psalm begin? (v. 1) What is the basis for the plea?
2. What characteristic of unfaithfulness is mentioned in v. 2? What does David wish would happen to those who so act? (v. 3)
3. What does the Lord see on earth that causes Him to arise to punish the wicked? (v. 5)

4. How then does David view the promises or words of God? (v. 6) What does he believe the Lord will do? (v. 7)
5. What did David observe that the wicked did ? (v. 8) When?

A prayer for help in trouble—Psalm 13:1-6

1. What two words begin the series of questions that begin this psalm? (v. 1-2) What does David say he has been doing?
2. What does David plead for God to do? (v. 3) What did David suggest would happen if the Lord did not deliver him? (v. 3-4)
3. Was there doubt on David's part that God would deliver him? (v. 5) Why?
4. What then did David suggest he would do? (v. 6) Why?