

Psalm 14 NRSV

Only fools say in their hearts,
"There is no God."
They are corrupt, and their actions are evil;
not one of them does good!

The Lord looks down from heaven
on the entire human race;
he looks to see if anyone is truly wise,
if anyone seeks God.

But no, all have turned away;
all have become corrupt.
No one does good,
not a single one!

Will those who do evil never learn?
They eat up my people like bread
and wouldn't think of praying to the Lord.

Terror will grip them,
for God is with those who obey him.

The wicked frustrate the plans of the oppressed,
but the Lord will protect his people.

Who will come from Mount Zion to rescue Israel?
When the Lord restores his people,
Jacob will shout with joy, and Israel will rejoice.

For Reflection and Prayer:

Was there a word, phrase or image which caught your attention you as you listened to or slowly read the text? Quietly reflect on this with Jesus.

Notice any felt sense that seems to emerge as you linger with this passage. It might come as a bodily feeling, emotion, metaphor, picture, gesture or sound. See if you can describe it and simply be with it with patient curiosity. Be open to whatever more might emerge.

Perhaps you might want to draw, color or journal your conversation.

As the time of prayer comes to a close, share some quiet moments with Jesus, simply resting safely in his presence.

Psalm 14 (TPT)

Only the withering soul would say to himself,
"There is no God."
Anyone who thinks like this is corrupt and callous,
devoid of what is good.
Yahweh looks down in love,
looking over all of Adam's sons and daughters.
He's looking to see if there is anyone who acts wisely,
any who are searching for God and wanting to please him.

But everyone has wandered astray,
walking stubbornly toward evil.
Not one is good; he can't even find one.
They live in luxury while exploiting my people!
Won't these workers of wickedness ever learn?
They don't ever think of praying to God.
Overwhelmed with Dread
But look at them now, in panic, trembling with terror.
For God is on the side of his godly lovers.
Yahweh is always the safest place for the poor
when the workers of wickedness oppress them.

How I wish that Israel's rescue
would arise from the midst of Zion!
When Yahweh restores his people,
Jacob's joy will break forth
and Israel will be glad!