



Studies in Psalms by [John T Polk II](#)
For [The Fellowship Room](#)

Psalm 11

9/28/12

Vs 1-3 show that running and hiding is not an option to the righteous;
Vs. 4-5a show that God is not inattentive, but may be testing the resolve of the righteous;
Vs 5b-7 show God’s judgment is keen and clear, and still to be trusted.

Confidence in the LORD (vs.1) gives one courage to stand his ground and not fleeing, a recurring theme in the Book of Psalms (27:1; 56:4,11; 118:6) and in the New Testament (Matthew 10:28; Romans 8:31; Hebrews 13:5-6). Today more than ever, Christians must pray, as the Apostle Paul requested: “that utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains; that in it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak” (Ephesians 6:19-20).

To flee from impending destruction by the wicked is to give up the very “foundation” upon which the righteous live (vs. 2-3). The courage of faith was seen when Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego were cast into the fiery furnace (Daniel 3) and Daniel was cast into the lion’s den (Daniel 6).The parallel in the New Testament occurs individually when “no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ” (1 Corinthians 3:11). This foundation must have the commitment of the Apostles Peter and John, who “answered and said to them, “Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you more than to God, you judge. For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard”” (Acts 4:19-20). Christians must fear no human!

God “in His holy temple” “in Heaven,” may seem slow to respond in order to “test the sons of men,” including “the righteous” (vs. 4-5). In the New Testament this should be viewed as encouraging for: “Blessed *is* the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him” (James 1:12). God tempts no one toward sin, but only gives opportunities to grow stronger by making good decisions (James 1:13-15; Hebrews 5:14). The “holy temple” on Earth in the New Testament is the church of Christ, for Jesus is the head of it (Ephesians 1:22-23), and it’s people are built to be the “holy temple” (Ephesians 2:19-22), where God dwells among His people (2 Corinthians 6:16).

The wicked will suffer destruction (vs. 5-6) just as Sodom and Gomorrah (Genesis 19:24), and as Jesus described the eternal Hell (Mark 9:41-49a).

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***All Scriptures and comments, unless otherwise noted, are based on the New King James Version.***