## Studies in Psalms by John T Polk II For The Fellowship Room

Psalm 64

12/13/12

Vs. 1-6 picture David's enemies "secretly" plotting against him; Vs. 7-10 show God's response and men's reactions.

There is reason to think this Psalm was written while King David's son, Absalom, plotted his overthrow (2 Samuel 15:7-13), but though the names change, the situation prompting this Psalm happen continually: wicked people plot to destroy those obedient to God: "Then the Pharisees went out and plotted against Him, how they might destroy Him. But when Jesus knew *it*, He withdrew from there. And great multitudes followed Him, and He healed them all" (Matthew 12:14-15).

**Verses 1-6:** David seeks relief from "fear of the enemy," because fear is an enemy of faith. Jesus rebuked Peter with: "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" (Matthew 14:31). God told Israel: "Fear not, for I *am* with you; Be not dismayed, for I *am* your God" (Isaiah 41:10). David's "fear" is caused by "secret plots of the wicked" and open "rebellion of the workers of iniquity." Tongues that speak sharply-piercing words; launch "bitter words" like arrows "at the blameless;" and who "do not fear."

Words can be weapons of mass destruction: "He *who* speaks truth declares righteousness, But a false witness, deceit. There is one who speaks like the piercings of a sword, But the tongue of the wise *promotes* health. The truthful lip shall be established forever, But a lying tongue *is* but for a moment" (Proverbs 12:17-19). There is nothing permanent about some people's words except the hurt they inflict on others!

**Verse 5** shows the wicked emboldened by: boasting among themselves; making secret plans; thinking they are hidden from judgment. This verse dissects bullies, gangs, tyrants, dictators, back-room politicians, socialists, religious leaders, *ad nauseum*. In the shopping cart of the perverse, one finds "maliciousness," "whisperers," "backbiters, haters of God," "boasters," "unmerciful," and whether cloaked in government, religion, news, entertainment, "those who practice such things are deserving of death" (Romans 1:29-32). What happens in Vegas (or anywhere else, for that matter!) DOES NOT STAY THERE! The wicked could accomplish much good if, as in **verse 6**, they spent their time and energy planning to do good!

**Verse 7-10:** The best lesson for bullies of every stripe is for them to learn they, too, can be hurt! God will "fire back" at them and they will "suddenly" discover nothing is hidden from God! "And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things *are* naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we *must give* account" (Hebrews 4:13). **Verse 8** is later spoken by Solomon: "The wicked is ensnared by the transgression of *his* lips, But the righteous will come through trouble" (Proverbs 12:13).



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**Verse 9** states what the Apostle Paul will write in Romans 14:10-12: "For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ. For it is written: '*As* I live, says the LORD, Every knee shall bow to Me, And every tongue shall confess to God.' So then each of us shall give account of himself to God." According to **verse 10**, as certainly as the unrepentant wicked will be damned, the righteous will be forever blessed.