



TEHILLIM TALKS

Psalm 14

To the choirmaster. A Psalm of David.

1

The fool says **in his heart**, “**There is no God**. They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds; there is **none** [אין] who does good.”

בלבו

(*b'libo*)

“in his heart”

אל לבו

(*el libo*)

“to his heart”

אין אלהים

(*ein Elohim*)

“no God”

2-4

Adonai looks down from heaven on the children of man, to see if there are any who understand, who seek after God. ³ They have all turned aside; together they have become corrupt; there is **none** [אין] who does good, not even one. ⁴ Have they no knowledge, all the evildoers who eat up My people as they eat bread and do not call upon Adonai?

5

There they are in great terror, for God is with the generation of the righteous.

6-7

You would shame the plans of the poor because Adonai is his refuge. ⁷ Oh, that salvation for Israel would come out of Zion! When Adonai restores the fortunes of His people, let Jacob rejoice, let Israel be glad.

REFERENCES:

Verse 1

1 Samuel 25:25 “Please do not let my lord pay attention to this worthless man, Nabal, for as his name is, so is he. Nabal [נבל, *nava*] is his name and folly [נבלה, *navalah*] is with him...”

Exodus 18:18 “You and the people with you will certainly wear yourselves out [נבל, *nava*], for the thing is too heavy for you. You are not able to do it alone.”

Genesis 27:41 Now Esau hated Jacob because of the blessing with which his father had blessed him, and **Esau** said in his heart, “The days of mourning for my father are approaching; then I will kill my brother Jacob.”

1 Kings 12:26 And **Jeroboam** said in his heart, “Now the kingdom will turn back to the house of David.”

Esther 6:6 So Haman came in, and the king said to him, “What should be done to the man whom the king delights to honor?” And **Haman** said to in his heart, “Whom would the king delight to honor more than me?”

[See also Psalm 10:6,11,13]

1 Samuel 27:1 Then **David** said to his heart [אל לבו, *el libo*] ...

The wicked are controlled by their hearts, whereas the righteous control their hearts. (Midrash Shochev Tov)

Verse 2

Genesis 18:16 Then the men set out from there, and they looked down [שקף, *shakaph*] toward Sodom. And Abraham went with them to set them on their way. [+19:28]

Romans 3:9-18 What then? Are we Jews any better than them? No, not at all. For we have already charged that all, both Jews and Greeks, are under sin, ¹⁰ as it is written: “None is righteous, no, not one; [Ps. 14:1] ¹¹ no one understands; no one seeks for God. [Ps. 14:2-3] ¹² All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one. [Ps. 14:1-3] ¹³ Their throat is an open grave; they use their tongues to deceive. [Ps. 5:9] The venom of asps is under their lips. [Ps. 140:3] ¹⁴ Their mouth is full of curses and bitterness. [Ps. 10:7] ¹⁵ Their feet are swift to shed blood; [Pr. 1:16] ¹⁶ in their paths are ruin and misery, ¹⁷ and the way of peace they have not known. ¹⁸ There is no fear of God before their eyes.” [Ps. 36:1]