

THE FOOL

"The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God." Psalms 14:1

It is only natural that our minds should go to the atheist when we read this words. I present that these words of David cannot apply to the atheist for one simple reason: the atheist is very open in their denial of the existence of God. Madalyn Murray O'Hair was the famous atheist of the 20th century who dedicated her life to fighting against the very God existence she denied. She was famous for her case before the Supreme Court, which succeeded in taking prayer out of our public schools. I saw her on a TV broadcast many years ago in a format in which people could call in to speak with her. Almost every caller told her of the awful place in the hottest part of hell that was prepared especially for her, and she would only laugh, and say, "They claim to be Christians, but they want to burn their enemies." Finally a young lady called in to say, "Mrs. O'Hair, first I want to say I am a born-again Christian," to which Mrs. O'Hair said to the moderator, "See, there is another one." The young lady continued, "Next I want to say that I love you, and I am praying for your soul..." At this point Mrs. O'Hair literally screamed in terror, "No ... no ...you have no right...I don't want you praying for me." I knew in that instant that Madalyn Murray O'Hair was not a true atheist but only a very evil woman who was possessed by an evil spirit. She was tormented by the love of this beautiful Christian girl, just as the presence of Jesus tormented the unclean spirit that cried out, "art thou come hither to torment us before the time?" Matthew 8:29.

"There is none righteous, no not one" Romans 3:10

The apostle Paul quoted David from the 14th Psalm to confirm his statement about "none righteous" when he said, "There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one" Romans 3:11-12. David was speaking about "the fool that said in his heart, there is no God," while Paul was speaking of those who trusted in the Law of Moses and denied Jesus is the Christ. He said, "We know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law" Romans 3:19.

The modern day "fool" that says in his heart, "there is no God" is also very religious. Most often they are in places of public ministry, speaking continually about both God and Jesus, but are those whom Paul warned Titus against; "They profess that they know God; but in works they deny him, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate" Titus 1:16. Paul further described those he spoke of as those who "subvert whole houses, teaching things which they ought not, for filthy lucre's (money) sake" Titus 1:11b. They are very insincere

ministers who appear to be very compassionate but are simply "in it for the money." I know a young man from India who came to America and worked long and hard to save close to \$40,000. He was very lonely, and met a young woman who, pretending to be in love with him, deceived him and took over \$20,000 of his money. Broken hearted, he went through a long period of depression, during which he could not work. He began to hear the televangelists' promises of a "hundredfold return," and "believing them," he began sending his savings to them \$1000 at a time, hoping to recover his loss. Yes, this young man was very "foolish," but the "fools" are those who took his money. They profess to represent Jesus Christ, while they "devour widow's houses" Matthew 23:14, and defraud the poor. These are more dangerous to the church of Jesus Christ than Madalyn O'Hair ever was. We all knew what she was, but these are those whom Jesus called "wolves in sheep's clothing" Matthew 7:15, whom the apostle Peter compared to "natural brute beasts, made to be taken and destroyed" II Peter 2:12.

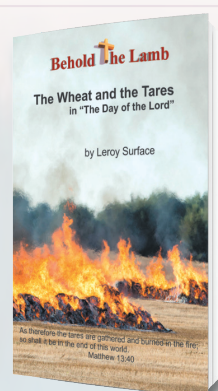
I recall a scheme that was strongly promoted shortly before the beginning of the new millennium. Several ministers on the largest "Christian" TV network agreed together to tell the people the time of Jubilee was at hand, during which God would cancel the debts of the children of God IF they would make a pledge of \$2000 to the network and pay it within 90 days. The promise was, when the last payment was made, God would supernaturally either "pay" or "cancel" their debts. A "river of money" poured in to the network, a few preachers became incredibly rich, and thousands of people across the nation are still wondering why "God" did not keep His promise to them. Peter spoke specifically of these ministers when he wrote, "And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you: whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not" II Peter 2:3. Perhaps most of the preachers involved in this scheme have now passed on to their "reward." One thing is sure, they will stand before God to give account, as will we all. My question is this; how could these "ministers" possibly believe in the existence of a "just God" and use His precious name to defraud innocent people with their lies? Most certainly, they are such as David had in mind when He said, "The fool hath said in his heart, there is no God!"

"Their throat is an open sepulchre; with their tongues they have used deceit; the poison of asps is under their lips: Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness: Their feet are swift to shed blood: Destruction and misery are in their ways: And the way of peace have they not known: There is no fear of God before their eyes."

Romans 3:13-18

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