

Refuge for the Nations

Lesson Two • Psalm 36

The Need to Persevere as a Refuge

Psalm 36 Is a Song with Many Melodies Like Our World Outreach Celebration

- A **ROYAL Melody** that reflects the Servant-Leadership of King David. *Superscription*
- A **LAMENT Melody** that cries over the depravity of mankind. (1-4)
- A **PRAISE Melody** that praises God's unchanging character and compassion. (5-9)
- A **PRAYER Melody** that asks the LORD to help us persevere to the end. (10-12)
- A **WISDOM Melody** that views life from God's perspective and acts accordingly. (3)
- A **PROPHETIC Melody** that reveals the condition of people and the compassion of God. (1, 12) [See CSB and NET translations.]

Because Rebels Desperately Need a Refuge, We Must **PERSEVERE** in Proclaiming Jesus as the Refuge for the Nations.

PERSPECTIVES for PERSEVERING as a REFUGE

1. The **NEED** for a Refuge Grows Every Day. (1-4)

We Are One Race with One Problem

Our hearts are **WICKED** and our view of God is **WARPED**.

"An evil man is rebellious to the core. He does not fear God, for he is too proud to recognize and give up his sin." NET

Our Depravity Deceives Us into Thinking...

- God is not as **HOLY** as He says He is.
Therefore, we do not FEAR GOD like we should!
- We are not as **SINFUL** as God says we are.
Therefore, we do not HATE SIN like we should!
- Sin is not as **DEADLY** as God says it is.
Therefore, we do not LIVE GODLY like we should!

2. The **HOPE** of a Refuge Never Changes. (5-6)

Four Reasons Why There Is Hope for Every Rebel Everywhere

- The LORD's **CHARACTER** is *unchanging*. (5-6)

- The LORD's **COMPASSION** is *unlimited*. (5)
- The LORD's **CONDUCT** is *unfathomable*. (6a)

Across the path of every unholy person who dreams of heaven towers the Mount Everest of divine righteousness, which no sinner can climb.

- The LORD's **CARE** is *undeniable*. (6b)

3. The **RESPONSE** to the Refuge Is Always Required. (7-9)

The LORD Provides What Every Rebel Desperately Needs and Truly Desires.

They need the refuge **only** He can provide. (7)

They have a hunger and thirst **only** He can satisfy. (8-9a)

They have a blindness **only** He can heal. (9b)

They have a sorrow **only** He can replace. (8b)

*But Taking Refuge Requires **TRUSTING** in Jesus to Be Your Refuge!*

Psalms 37:39-40; 17:6-9; 57:1-3; 61:1-4; 63:4-8; 91:1-16

*"O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, **and you were not willing!** See, your house is left to you desolate. For I tell you, you will not see Me again, **until you say**, 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.'" **Matthew 23:37-39***

What Does Trusting Jesus as Your Refuge Look Like?

- **TAKE** Jesus as your **only** Refuge!
- **TREASURE** Jesus as your **greatest** Refuge!
- **TURN** from your sin when Jesus is **your** Refuge!

4. The **PEOPLE** Who Take Refuge Must Persevere. (10-12)

Prayers for Persevering as a Refuge for the Nations

- Pray for His Gracious Provision, So You Can Persevere.
Help me remain devoted to You, O LORD, by Your means of grace. (10)
- Pray for His Sovereign Protection, So You Can Persevere.
Help me to reject distractions, deceptions, and destruction of sin, self, and Satan. (11)
- Pray with His Victorious Promises, So You Can Persevere.
Help me to remember the destiny of the lost and the victory of Your mission. (12)