

## PSALM 11

*The LORD a Refuge and Defense.*

### INTRODUCTION.

- A. From Roy Enoch on 11-24-93.

### THE TEXT.

- 11:1** In the LORD I take refuge;  
How can you say to my soul, "Flee *as* a bird to your mountain;  
**2** For, behold, the wicked bend the bow,  
They make ready their arrow upon the string  
To shoot in darkness at the upright in heart.  
**3** If the foundations are destroyed,  
What can the righteous do?"  
**4** The LORD is in His holy temple; the LORD'S throne is in heaven;  
His eyes behold, His eyelids test the sons of men.  
**5** The LORD tests the righteous and the wicked,  
And the one who loves violence His soul hates.  
**6** Upon the wicked He will rain snares;  
Fire and brimstone and burning wind will be the portion of their cup.  
**7** For the LORD is righteous, He loves righteousness;  
The upright will behold His face.

### COMMENTS.

- A. **[v1,2]** The key to this first section is in the first line: "In the Lord I put my trust; how can you say to my soul," It seems clear that the rest of this section is what others advise David to do: "Flee as a bird to your mountain."  
B. **[v3]** The reasons are given in describing dangers with the hopeless conclusion: "If the foundations are destroyed, what can the righteous do?" But his faith is stronger than that, as the concluding verses describe.  
C. **[v4]** Four times he mentions the Lord as the source of his hope and confidence. "The LORD is in His holy temple." This reminds us of a similar statement in Hab. 2:20.  
D. The Lord's temple here may not be the tabernacle or any physical building but His throne in heaven. The temple of Solomon had not been built when David lived.  
E. **[v5]** "The Lord tests the righteous" is a principle often stated. James 1:2-3  
F. **[v6,7]** Since "the Lord is righteous" David is confident that he will be protected and the wicked punished: "Upon the wicked He will rain coals; fire and brimstone..."  
G. We should learn from this psalm, the lesson that we should never run away from danger, especially when the righteous are attacked by the wicked.