

By Dr. Andrew Corbett

Psalm 10 is an *imprecatory* Psalm. It is the heartache of a Psalmist who desperately wants God to exercise justice against the wicked and deliver the oppressed. Thus God has incorporated into the inspired pages of Scripture the genuine emotions of real people. Their appeal for harshness is not necessarily inspired, but the depth of their emotion certainly was!

1. What did Isaiah the prophet say was possible but actually warned against? (Matthew 13:14)

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Its possible to hear the facts but never know the truth!

Here are some interesting tidbits of facts and trivia specifically in regards to the King James Version of the Bible:

## Books of the Bible:

- Books of the Bible: 66
- Books in Old Testament: 39
- Books in New Testament: 27
- Middle book of Old Testament: Proverbs
- Middle book of New Testament: 2 Thessalonians

## Verses:

- Old Testament: 23,214 verses
- New Testament: 7,959 verses
- Middle verse of the Bible: Psalms 118:8
- Middle verse of the Old Testament: 2 Chronicles 20:17
- Middle verse of the New Testament: Acts 17:17
- Shortest verse of the Old Testament: 1 Chronicles 1:25
- Shortest verse of the New Testament: "Jesus wept." John 11:35
- Longest verse in the Bible: Esther 8:9
- Verse containing all letters of the alphabet except J: Ezra 7:21
- Verse containing all letters of the alphabet except Q: Daniel 4:37
- Verses most alike: Psalm 107:8,15,21, 31

## Chapters:

- Entire Bible: 1189
- Old Testament: 929
- New Testament: 260
- Middle chapter of Old Testament: Job 29
- Middle chapter of New Testament: Romans 13
- Middle and shortest chapter of Bible: Psalms 117
- Longest chapter in the Bible: Psalm 119
- Chapters that are most alike: 2 Kings 19 and Isaiah 37

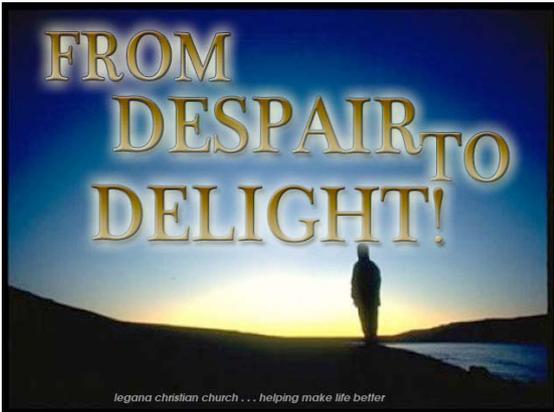
## Words:

- In the Old Testament: 592,439 words
- In the New Testament: 181,253 words
- Longest word in the Bible (18 letters): Maher-shalal-hash-baz (Isaiah 8:1,3)
- King with shortest reign: King Zimri (*7 days*) I Kings 16:15

## Words occurring only once in the Bible:

- Eternity (Isaiah 57:15)•Grandmother (2 Timothy 1:5)
- Gnat (Matthew 23:24)

There was once a long term prisoner who had little else in his cell except for a Bible. After years of imprisonment he eventually died. Written on his cell wall was some of the above Bible trivia. Despite his apparent familiarity with the Bible he managed to miss its main point. This illustrated that even though someone can know detailed trivia about the Word of God they may still miss knowing the God of the Word!



2. Read Psalm 10. Match the particular verses of Psalm 10 with the list of "D" words-

- "Denial" \_\_\_\_\_
- "Despairing" \_\_\_\_\_
- "Delight" \_\_\_\_\_
- "Deluded" \_\_\_\_\_
- "Declaration" \_\_\_\_\_

3. What is the promise and condition found in Psalm 37:4?

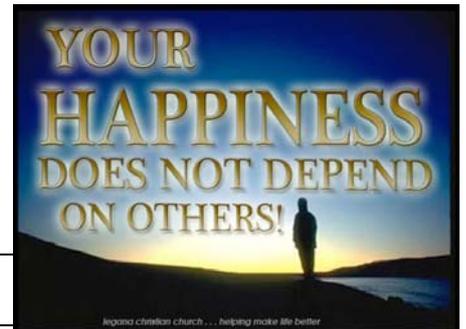
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4. Note Psalm 10:5. What does the Psalmist note perhaps surprisingly about how the wicked often fair?

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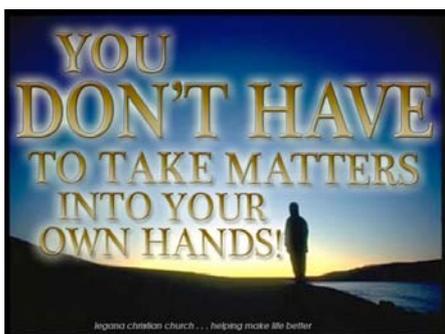
Many people serve God out of self-interest. They believe that if they serve God and are faithful to Him, they will prosper and succeed in all they do. Because they believe this, they consider the opposite must be true also- *that the wicked will not prosper because they do not serve God.* But Psalm 10 does not promote this false idea, but actually states the reality that prosperity or impoverishment is not always directly linked to a person's relationship with God.

5. What hope have the godly and the cause of good got against terrorists according to Psalm 10:18?

The Psalmist notes that the wicked often use oppressive means of exploitation of the poor and the vulnerable to further their prosperity. But he knows something that the wicked do not.

6. How does Psalm 10:5 finish (which should stand as a warning to any who think that greed at any price is a good thing)?
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The Psalmist takes *delight* in the Lord when he declares in verse 17 that God hears the desires of the afflicted, listens to their cries for help (He will "*incline [His] ear*") and strengthens their hearts. The Psalmist concludes his Psalm by declaration that God will right wrongs and do justice for the oppressed and against the oppressors. Therefore, our source of happiness and contentment is from the Lord, not other people.



We need to turn our *tests* into our *testimonies!*

We need to allow God to turn our *mess* into a *message* (of His goodness)!

*Amen.*