

PLAIN SPEECH

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“Seeing then that we have such hope, we use great plainness of speech” (2 Cor. 3:12)

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THE WICKED MAN

Take a moment to read **Psalm 10:1-13**. I’ve inserted the text below.

- 1 Why standest thou afar off, O LORD? why hidest thou thyself in times of trouble?
- 2 The wicked in his pride doth persecute the poor: let them be taken in the devices that they have imagined.
- 3 For the wicked boasteth of his heart's desire, and blesseth the covetous, whom the LORD abhorreth.
- 4 The wicked, through the pride of his countenance, will not seek after God: God is not in all his thoughts.
- 5 His ways are always grievous; thy judgments are far above out of his sight: as for all his enemies, he puffeth at them.
- 6 He hath said in his heart, I shall not be moved: for I shall never be in adversity.
- 7 His mouth is full of cursing and deceit and fraud: under his tongue is mischief and vanity.
- 8 He sitteth in the lurking places of the villages: in the secret places doth he murder the innocent: his eyes are privily set against the poor.
- 9 He lieth in wait secretly as a lion in his den: he lieth in wait to catch the poor: he doth catch the poor, when he draweth him into his net.
- 10 He croucheth, and humbleth himself, that the poor may fall by his strong ones.
- 11 He hath said in his heart, God hath forgotten: he hideth his face; he will never see it.
- 12 Arise, O LORD; O God, lift up thine hand: forget not the humble.
- 13 Wherefore doth the wicked contemn God? he hath said in his heart, Thou wilt not require it.



Having read the text, let’s glean from it some characteristics of a wicked individual. The wicked person...

- IS PROUD (vs. 2, 4 – cp. 1 Pet. 5:5; Matt. 5:3).
- IS NOT MERCIFUL (vs. 2, 8-10 – cp. Js. 3:17; Matt 5:7).
- LOVES PLEASING HIMSELF (vs. 2 – cp. Rom 8:6; Gal. 2:20).
- APPROVES OF EVIL (vs. 3 – cp. Rom. 12:9; Ps. 139:21-22).
- HAS NOT TRAINED HIS MIND (vs. 4 – cp. 2 Cor. 10:5; Plp. 4:8).
- PUTS CONFIDENCE IN THE FLESH (vs. 5-6 – cp. Plp. 3:3; 1 Pet. 1:23-25).
- HAS THE WRONG STANDARD OF AUTHORITY (vs. 6 – cp. Prv. 3:5-7; Jer. 10:23; 17:9).
- MISUSES HIS TONGUE (vs. 7 – cp. Col. 3:17; Eph. 4:29; Prv.10:11).
- THINKS HE WILL ESCAPE THE JUDGMENT OF GOD (vs. 11, 13 – cp. 2 Cor. 5:10; Gal. 6:7-8).

Folks, not every wicked person looks like the man in the clipart above. Sometimes they may unknowingly be in our midst (2 Pet. 3:17; 1 Cor. 5:13). Let’s be ever watchful (Matt. 10:16).