

# PSALM 9-14

## WEEK IN REVIEW + FAMILY GUIDE

### WEEK IN REVIEW

Across Psalms 9-14, we read about many attributes and actions of God. **Attributes** are qualities and characteristics that are inherent to who someone is. Some of the given attributes of God are that He is just, a shelter, pure, protector, and good. We also see the actions of God. He is watching us closely, He will rise up to rescue us, and He will protect His people. From these attributes and actions, we learn so much about how He cares for us.

In nearly every Psalm we read this week, we see the author referring to a group of people as the “**wicked**.” In the Bible, the wicked often refers to the people who are rebelling against God. The wicked are violent, oppressive, deceitful, proud, and arrogant. Based on their attributes and how different they are from God and His character, it is clear that these people are not followers of Him. An action of the wicked we often see is their oppression of the “**helpless**,” or in some translations, the poor. While it might be true that these people do not have a lot of possessions, that is not what this description is referring to. The helpless is referring to the people who are poor in Spirit, meaning they are in need, they lack protection, they are oppressed, and they are powerless. In much of the reading, the wicked and the helpless showed up together. The dynamic we saw was that the wicked were evil and being violent towards the helpless, but that is not where the Psalms end. God, as the Good Protector and Shelter for His people, steps in and brings justice!

You may have never thought of yourself as helpless. We have access to doctors if we get sick, to food if we are hungry, and to water if we are thirsty. These things are all blessings, but it is important to know that our physical health is not what gives us our strength or our purpose. At one point in our lives, we were all helpless, until we encountered Jesus and our lives were forever changed! When we accept Jesus into our hearts as our Lord and our Savior, we are rich in Spirit and rich in love! Our spiritual health is our most important and valuable health, and the beautiful thing about it is that it is not determined by how healthy our bodies are, it is all about God’s love making our hearts healthy! God, the Creator of the Heavens and the Earth, cares so much about you and watches over you!

## FAMILY GUIDE

<b>BIG IDEA:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● God is our Protector!</li></ul>
<b>KEY STORIES:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● God protects the helpless</li><li>● God opposes the wicked</li><li>● God's love is unfailing</li><li>● God is good to us</li></ul>
<b>KEY VERSES:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Psalm 9:2</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ "I will be filled with joy because of you. I will sing praises to your name, O Most High."</li></ul></li><li>● <b>Psalm 10:17</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ "Lord, you know the hopes of the helpless. Surely you will hear their cries and comfort them"</li></ul></li><li>● <b>Psalm 11:4</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ "But the Lord is in his holy Temple; the Lord still rules from Heaven. He watches everyone closely, examining every person on Earth."</li></ul></li><li>● <b>Psalm 12:7</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ "Therefore, Lord, we know you will protect the oppressed, preserving them forever from this lying generation."</li></ul></li></ul>
<b>WORDS TO KNOW:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Attributes</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Qualities and characteristics that are inherent to who someone is</li></ul></li><li>● <b>Wicked</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Refers to the people who are rebelling against God, they are are violent, oppressive, deceitful, proud, and arrogant</li></ul></li><li>● <b>Helpless</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ The people who are in need, they lack protection, they are oppressed, and they are powerless</li></ul></li></ul>

## Reflection Questions

1.	What is something you have learned about God based on His attributes?
2.	What do you think it means that God is a shelter?
3.	How have you seen God as your protector in your life?