

## SELECTED PSALMS PHASE 2

### PSALM 49

### Answers for Review Questions

1. **Answer:**

- (a) The use of **“hear”**, is not just listening, but an active call to pay close attention and engage with the message.
- (b) The psalmist is saying: What I am about to say is of uttermost importance and needs universal attention; the matter is relevant to all mankind, and each person must heed the message about to be delivered.

For more information, see Page 4.

2. **Answer:**

- (a) False
- (b) These truths being delivered, pertained, to those of humble (**“low”**) rank teaching them not to envy the rich, and not to fear their power; and they pertained to those of exalted rank (**“high”**), as teaching them not to trust in their riches, and not to suppose that they could permanently possess them.

For more information, see Page 4.

3. **Answer:**

- (a) four (b) what (c) have (d) do (e) know (f) are (g) character (h) spoke (i) only (j) first (k) least.

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4. **Answer:**

As seen in other psalms, they focus on praise and praying to God; this psalm (Psa. 49), teaches **wisdom** and imparts **understanding**.

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5. **Answer:**

It is called a **“proverb”** (NKJV) – **“parable”** (KJV), **not** because it is figurative and obscure **but** because it is a wise discourse and very instructive.

For more information, see Page 5.

6. **Answer:**

Psa. 49:4b: A **“... saying on the harp”** or **“riddle”** was a difficult subject that required deep consideration and contemplation. . . . Etc.

**“... on the harp”**: The idea here is, that he would accompany the explanation with music, or would be so express it might be accompanied with music; etc. . . .

For more information, see Page 5.

7. **Answer:**

We have the result of the reflections of the psalmist on what had been to him a source of perplexity; on what had seemed to him a dark problem.

He had evidently felt that there was occasion to dread the power of the wicked rich men; but now felt that he had no ground for that fear and alarm.

For more information, see Page 6.

8. **Answer:**

The idea conveyed here (Psa. 49:5b) is, when I am exposed to the crafts, the cunningness, the tricks of those who lie in wait for me; I am liable to be attacked suddenly, or be taken unaware, but what have I to fear?

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9. **Answer:**

(a) False.

(b) The problem is not their wealth but having their riches dominate the worldly; they depend upon it as their **portion** and **happiness**, and expect that it will secure them from all the evil and supply them with all the good, and they need nothing else, no, not from God Himself (**on the contrary, God is our portion Psa. 16:5; also Psa. 73:26; 142:5; Lam. 3:24**).

For more information, see Pages 6-7.

10. **Answer:**

(a) correct (b) money (c) keep (d) fixed (e) importance (f) temporal (g) counsel (h) eternity (i) overcoming.

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11. **Answer:**

A simple straightforward message in Psa. 49:7: is that even the wealthiest cannot use their riches to escape death, thus exposing the fleeting nature of earthly power and emphasizing the need to focus on true riches found only in God.

See Pages 6-9.

12. **Answer:**

**"Brutish"** (KJV), means **"senseless"**, or unable to reason, like an animal. Thus, as in our text (49:10), referring to the rich man who is stupid and dull; who lives to eat and drink; who lives for gross sensuality – he dies as well as he who is wise.

For more information, see Page 9.

13. **Answer:**

The word **"inner thought"** (NKJV), **"inward thought"** (KJV) (see Psa. 49:11) means, their hope, their calculation, their secret expectation; and the entire verse (49:11) is designed to show or importance which they attached to wealth as being in their apprehension, suited to build up their families forever.

Etc.

For more information, see Pages 9-10

**14. Answer:**

Item (b) . . . its possessors from the grave.

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**15. Answer:**

No matter what rank the rich man rises to, no matter how much wealth he may accumulate, no matter how fixed and secured he may seem, make his possessions last forever . . . he cannot make them permanent and enduring!! He must pass away and leave all this to others.

For more information, see Page 10.