

## November 2017

### Psalm 43

1 Give judgment for me, O God,  
and defend my cause against an ungodly people; \*  
deliver me from the deceitful and the wicked.

2 For you are the God of my strength;  
why have you put me from you? \*  
and why do I go so heavily while the enemy oppresses me?

3 Send out your light and your truth, that they may lead me, \*  
and bring me to your holy hill  
and to your dwelling;

4 That I may go to the altar of God,  
to the God of my joy and gladness; \*  
and on the harp I will give thanks to you, O God my God.

5 Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul? \*  
and why are you so disquieted within me?

6 Put your trust in God; \*  
for I will yet give thanks to him,  
who is the help of my countenance, and my God.

### Matthew 23:1-12

*Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples, "The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses' seat; therefore, do whatever they teach you and follow it; but do not do as they do, for they do not practice what they teach. They tie up heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on the shoulders of others; but they themselves are unwilling to lift a finger to move them. They do all their deeds to be seen by others; for they make their phylacteries broad and their fringes long. They love to have the place of honor at banquets and the best seats in the synagogues, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, and to have people call them rabbi. But you are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all students. And call no one your father on earth, for you have one Father-- the one in heaven. Nor are you to be called instructors, for you have one instructor, the Messiah. The greatest among you will be your servant. All who exalt themselves will be humbled, and all who humble themselves will be exalted."*

**Do we put heavy burdens on others shoulders? How do we make sure we aren't seeking to have the best seats, and greeted with respect when perhaps we don't deserve it. And what does Matthew mean when he says 'all who exalt themselves will be humbled and all who humble themselves will be exalted?'**