

Lesson 6: Pour Out Your Indignation

Wednesday, February 7, 2024

Ryan Day

Read Psalm 58:6–8; Psalm 69:22–28; Psalm 83:9–17; Psalm 94:1, 2; and Psalm 137:7–9. What sentiments do these Psalms convey? Who is the agent of judgment in these Psalms?

⁶ Break their teeth in their mouth, O God!
Break out the fangs of the young lions, O Lord!
⁷ Let them flow away as waters *which* run continually;
When he bends *his* bow,
Let his arrows be as if cut in pieces.
⁸ *Let them be* like a snail which melts away as it goes,
Like a stillborn child of a woman, that they may not see the sun.—
Psalms 58:6-8

²² Let their table become a snare before them,
And their well-being a trap.
²³ Let their eyes be darkened, so that they do not see;
And make their loins shake continually.
²⁴ Pour out Your indignation upon them,
And let Your wrathful anger take hold of them.
²⁵ Let their dwelling place be desolate;
Let no one live in their tents.
²⁶ For they persecute the *ones* You have struck,
And talk of the grief of those You have wounded.
²⁷ Add iniquity to their iniquity,
And let them not come into Your righteousness.
²⁸ Let them be blotted out of the book of the living,
And not be written with the righteous.—***Psalms 69:22-28***

⁹ Deal with them as *with* Midian,
As *with* Sisera,
As *with* Jabin at the Brook Kishon,
¹⁰ Who perished at En Dor,

Who became as refuse on the earth.
¹¹ Make their nobles like Oreb and like Zeeb,
Yes, all their princes like Zebah and Zalmunna,
¹² Who said, "Let us take for ourselves
The pastures of God for a possession."
¹³ O my God, make them like the whirling dust,
Like the chaff before the wind!
¹⁴ As the fire burns the woods,
And as the flame sets the mountains on fire,
¹⁵ So pursue them with Your tempest,
And frighten them with Your storm.
¹⁶ Fill their faces with shame,
That they may seek Your name, O Lord.
¹⁷ Let them be confounded and dismayed forever;
Yes, let them be put to shame and perish—***Psalms 83:9-17***

O Lord God, to whom vengeance belongs—
O God, to whom vengeance belongs, shine forth!
² Rise up, O Judge of the earth;
Render punishment to the proud.—***Psalms 94:1, 2***

⁷ Remember, O Lord, against the sons of Edom
The day of Jerusalem,
Who said, "Raze *it*, raze *it*,
To its very foundation!"
⁸ O daughter of Babylon, who are to be destroyed,
Happy the one who repays you as you have served us!
⁹ Happy the one who takes and dashes
Your little ones against the rock!—***Psalms 137:7-9***

God's retribution is measured with justice and grace. God's children are called to pray for those who mistreat them and even to hope for their conversion (*Ps. 83:18, Jer. 29:7*).

However, while seeking to fit these Psalms with the biblical norms of love for enemies, we must be careful not to minimize the agonizing experience expressed in them. God acknowledges the suffering of His children and reassures them that

“precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of His saints” (Ps. 116:15, NKJV). Divine judgment obliges God’s people to raise their voices against all evil and seek the coming of God’s kingdom in its fullness. The Psalms also give voice to those who suffer, letting them know that God is aware of their suffering and that one day justice will come.

⁴⁰Therefore as the tares are gathered and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of this age. ⁴¹The Son of Man will send out His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and those who practice lawlessness, ⁴²and will cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears to hear, let him hear!—**Matthew 13:40-43**

“For behold, the day is coming,
Burning like an oven,
And all the proud, yes, all who do wickedly will be stubble.
And the day which is coming shall burn them up,”
Says the Lord of hosts,
“That will leave them neither root nor branch.

²But to you who fear My name
The Sun of Righteousness shall arise
With healing in His wings;
And you shall go out
And grow fat like stall-fed calves.

³You shall trample the wicked,
For they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet
On the day that I do *this*,”
Says the Lord of hosts.—**Malachi 4:1-3**

⁹When He opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain for the word of God and for the testimony which they held. ¹⁰And they cried with a loud voice, saying, “How long, O Lord, holy and true, until You judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?” ¹¹Then a white robe was given to

each of them; and it was said to them that they should rest a little while longer, until both *the number of* their fellow servants and their brethren, who would be killed as they *were*, was completed.—

Revelation 6:9-11

⁴Then the third angel poured out his bowl on the rivers and springs of water, and they became blood. ⁵And I heard the angel of the waters saying:

“You are righteous, O Lord,

The One who is and who was and who is to be,

Because You have judged these things.

⁶For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets,

And You have given them blood to drink.

For it is their just due.”

⁷And I heard another from the altar saying, “Even so, Lord God Almighty, true and righteous *are* Your judgments.”—

Revelation 16:4-7