

How Long, O Lord? | Day 16: Psalms 79–82 Audio Bible for Justice & Lament

56 verses • 5:12 reading time • World English Bible

Psalm 79

¹ A Psalm by Asaph. God, the nations have come into your inheritance. They have defiled your holy temple. They have laid Jerusalem in heaps. ² They have given the dead bodies of your servants to be food for the birds of the sky, the flesh of your saints to the animals of the earth. ³ They have shed their blood like water around Jerusalem. There was no one to bury them. ⁴ We have become a reproach to our neighbors, a scoffing and derision to those who are around us. ⁵ How long, LORD? Will you be angry forever? Will your jealousy burn like fire? ⁶ Pour out your wrath on the nations that don't know you, on the kingdoms that don't call on your name, ⁷ for they have devoured Jacob, and destroyed his homeland. ⁸ Don't hold the iniquities of our forefathers against us. Let your tender mercies speedily meet us, for we are in desperate need. ⁹ Help us, God of our salvation, for the glory of your name. Deliver us, and forgive our sins, for your name's sake. ¹⁰ Why should the nations say, "Where is their God?" Let it be known among the nations, before our eyes, that vengeance for your servants' blood is being poured out. ¹¹ Let the sighing of the prisoner come before you. According to the greatness of your power, preserve those who are sentenced to death. ¹² Pay back to our neighbors seven times into their bosom their reproach with which they have reproached you, Lord. ¹³ So we, your people and sheep of your pasture, will give you thanks forever. We will praise you forever, to all generations.

Psalm 80

¹ For the Chief Musician. To the tune of "The Lilies of the Covenant." A Psalm by Asaph. Hear us, Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock, you who sit above the cherubim, shine out. ² Before Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, stir up your might! Come to save us! ³ Turn us again, God. Cause your face to shine, and we will be saved. ⁴ LORD God of Armies, how long will you be angry against the prayer of your people? ⁵ You have fed them with the bread of tears, and given them tears to drink in large measure. ⁶ You make us a source of contention to our neighbors. Our enemies laugh among themselves. ⁷ Turn us again, God of Armies. Cause your face to shine, and we will be saved. ⁸ You brought a vine out of Egypt. You drove out the nations, and planted it. ⁹ You cleared the ground for it. It took deep root, and filled the land. ¹⁰ The mountains were covered with its shadow. Its boughs were like God's cedars. ¹¹ It sent out its branches to the sea, its shoots to the River. ¹² Why have you broken down its walls, so that all those who pass by the way pluck it? ¹³ The boar out of the wood ravages it. The wild animals of the field feed on it. ¹⁴ Turn again, we beg you, God of Armies. Look down from heaven, and see, and visit this vine, ¹⁵ the stock which your right hand planted, the branch that you made strong for yourself. ¹⁶ It's burned with fire. It's cut down. They perish at your rebuke. ¹⁷ Let your hand be on the man of your right hand, on the son of man whom you made strong for yourself. ¹⁸ So we will not turn away from you. Revive us, and we will call on your name. ¹⁹ Turn us again, LORD God of Armies. Cause your face to shine, and we will be saved.

Psalm 81

¹ For the Chief Musician. On an instrument of Gath. By Asaph. Sing aloud to God, our strength! Make a joyful shout to the God of Jacob! ² Raise a song, and bring here the tambourine, the pleasant lyre with the harp. ³ Blow the trumpet at the New Moon, at the full moon, on our feast day. ⁴ For it is a statute for Israel, an ordinance of the God of Jacob. ⁵ He appointed it in Joseph for a covenant, when he went out over the land of Egypt, I heard a language that I didn't know. ⁶ "I removed his shoulder from the

burden. His hands were freed from the basket. ⁷ You called in trouble, and I delivered you. I answered you in the secret place of thunder. I tested you at the waters of Meribah.” Selah. ⁸ “Hear, my people, and I will testify to you, Israel, if you would listen to me! ⁹ There shall be no strange god in you, neither shall you worship any foreign god. ¹⁰ I am the LORD, your God, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt. Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it. ¹¹ But my people didn’t listen to my voice. Israel desired none of me. ¹² So I let them go after the stubbornness of their hearts, that they might walk in their own counsels. ¹³ Oh that my people would listen to me, that Israel would walk in my ways! ¹⁴ I would soon subdue their enemies, and turn my hand against their adversaries. ¹⁵ The haters of the LORD would cringe before him, and their punishment would last forever. ¹⁶ But he would have also fed them with the finest of the wheat. I will satisfy you with honey out of the rock.”

Psalm 82

¹ A Psalm by Asaph. God presides in the great assembly. He judges among the gods. ² “How long will you judge unjustly, and show partiality to the wicked?” Selah. ³ “Defend the weak, the poor, and the fatherless. Maintain the rights of the poor and oppressed. ⁴ Rescue the weak and needy. Deliver them out of the hand of the wicked.” ⁵ They don’t know, neither do they understand. They walk back and forth in darkness. All the foundations of the earth are shaken. ⁶ I said, “You are gods, all of you are sons of the Most High. ⁷ Nevertheless you shall die like men, and fall like one of the rulers.” ⁸ Arise, God, judge the earth, for you inherit all of the nations.