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.