

PSALM 5
David's Prayer on Right Living and God's Justice
TOMMY NELSON

John Locke once said, "Hell is reasonable." I don't agree with everything Locke said, but this statement is powerfully true.

Because of the vengeance of God, He had to have hell.

We all struggle with evil. David expressed his sorrow and frustration in this psalm.

Psalm 5 begins with a cry: "How long, O God?"

David struggled – and then he prayed fervently. When pain, heartache, injustice and confusion come, it's our foxhole moment, our desperate prayer.

This is a life in the face of pain. "God, I mean this!" King Hezekiah prayed "See my tears."

"Hear my groaning."

"I can't rest..."

"Consider my mourning..."

Job sobbed before God in agony.

James 5: "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much."

Heed the sound of my cry

God, Help! Life moves in lurches-all of a sudden your radiologist calls. "Come in to see me..."

We asked, "What have I done?"

Verse 2 sovereignty of a mighty God-"my King and my God"

A Jewish king, upon his coronation, would take the law on the steps of the Temple and would swear on it praying to the King of Kings.

"In the morning you will hear My voice."

The book of numbers explains how a priest arranged a sacrifice.

Luke described Zacharius came in the morning to arrange the sacrifice.-

The Morning Sacrifice was holy.

"I will order my prayer -and watch."

I prayed in the House of Representatives. All heads went down. You are ordering

your prayer, because you are praying with the understanding of the magnitude of the moment.

Verse 4: "You are not a God who takes pleasure in wickedness-your enemies are My enemies."

One of Israel's highest virtues was hospitality. The visitor was protected by the host.

That's why Lot told the Sodomites-"Take my daughter."

You take care of who comes through.

You are not a God who winks at evil.

Your destroyers, murderers. David reveres God. He knows Jehovah has nothing to do with evil.

You do not line up against God. He is No friend of evil.

Psalm 5: 4-6:

⁴I know you get no pleasure from wickedness and cannot tolerate the slightest sin. ⁵Therefore, proud sinners will not survive your searching gaze, for how you hate their evil deeds. ⁶You will destroy them for their lies; how you abhor all murder and deception.

Remember the Philistines. "If we can get the ark and use him against our enemies." Just like the Nazi's in "Raiders of the Lost Ark."

Philistines put God's ark in Dagon's temple. Dagon lost his head. God visited the people with hemorrhoids and rats.

The Philistines cried, "Get it out of this city. Return it to Israel!"

A wicked country will not coerce God.

Belshazzar-handwriting on the wall

You have crossed God. You have been weighed in the balance and have been found wanting.

David says:

⁷But as for me, I will come into your Temple protected by your mercy and your love; I will worship you with deepest awe.

"My hands are clean."

Verse 7 is a hermeneutics landmark.

“But as for me, Your loving kindness is abundant.”

Hassidic Jews were Loyal Jews to OT law.

Hesed-loyal love. I will love you and be loyal until death.

It's Hosea, *hesed* love-loving kindness for God-loyal love. The undying love he had for a prostitute. He bought her back.

He will not forsake Israel.

David will not succumb to despairing

Hesed you are faithful to me.

Day's gonna come when you will vindicate me.

In verse 8, David learns to rest that God will judge.

“Lord, lead me as you promised me you would; otherwise my enemies will conquer me. Tell me clearly what to do, which way to turn. ⁹For they cannot speak one truthful word. Their hearts are filled to the brim with wickedness. Their suggestions are full of the stench of sin and death. Their tongues are filled with flatteries to gain their wicked ends. ¹⁰O God, hold them responsible. Catch them in their own traps; let them fall beneath the weight of their own transgressions, for they rebel against you.

Lead me in your righteousness.

...Because you are not going to allow evil men forever.

“I know you will take care of me.”

David is in the right. You will never go wrong if you are going after right
David said he would not lay a hand on Saul, because he was God's anointed.

When he became king, David didn't lay a finger on Saul's dependents.

He put ark in the temple.

Put enemies in their place

God said, when Messiah comes, he will be called the Son of David.

Did David ever sin?

Did God punish him? Yet he was penitent

Verse 7-“because of my foes...”

God will lead us.

Verse 9-There is nothing reliable in what they say...
When you are relying on God you are walking with the wind at your back.

Wicked men will live long, unhappy lives.

I saw a rebellious young man and warned him, "There is a day coming you will self combust-I want you to remember-repent and come to the cross."

"God," David cries, "you are going to cast them out."
She saw evil judged quickly.

Men make watches. God makes time.

All the faithful are safe.

"Let all who take refuge be glad."
It's so who blessed the righteous
Can I enjoy be sweet to others
God surround us w/favor as with a shield. Egypt Ammon surrounded them, but
God's peace surrounded them
Psalm 23-God is near, right there when you need Him, like a good waitress

The wicked have turned the world upside down.

Heavenly king, earthly king-Old Testament synagogue morphed into the New
Testament church.

Old Testament Heroes-Ezra Esther all out of the land-walk outside. Surrounded
by evil walking with God. In the New Testament, those heroes became us!

Joseph, Daniel-God eat food sacrificed to Babylonian god. Daniel said,
"Please give me vegetables to eat." He turned out better
Shadrach Meshech Abednego wouldn't bow down. The King said, "I'll throw you
into fiery furnace. Heat it up 7 times more." God protected them in the fire. Daniel
was protected in the lion's den.

We have another King!

Evil has infected arts media politics homes...
Now we have the "Affirming Church"- approving homosexuality.

"We've got our king..."

I'm reminded of Serpico. 1971-New York City's biggest investigation. Frank Serpico was a good cop. He was elevated to detective. But he saw fellow officers take payments/graft, overlooked prostitution, etc. Policeman walked away. 37,000 guys were on the force. The crooked cops lied about him, demoted him. Policeman walked away.

But when you are right you don't run.

The corruption went to the top. Serpico was even shot in the eye. The DA tried to silence him. Still, he decried corruption. Finally the NY Times Investigated the scandal. Serpico became a hero because he stood firm.

So should we.