

LESSONS FROM PSALMS FIFTY-EIGHT

Scripture: Psalm 58:1-11

Ray O. Brooks

Introduction:

- A. This is identified as a Psalm of David.
 - B. It is thought to have been written during the time David was in exile because of the rebellion of Absalom.
 - C. At this time, many of the officials in David's kingdom had turned against him and lined up with the rebel king, thus proving themselves to be unjust judges.
 - D. This seems to be the basic thrust of David's message in this Psalm...Judges who practice miscarriage of justice.
 - E. Most of us would agree that it could be sounded out in our time.
- I. LEARN THAT THE RIGHTEOUS WILL FIND MANY OCCASIONS TO CHARGE THE JUDGES OF THE EARTH WITH MISCARRIAGE OF JUSTICE. vs.1-5
- A. In verse the question is raised.."Do you judge uprightly?"
 - 1. NEB "Answer ye rulers, are your judgments just?"
 - 2. Taylor "Justice? Ye high and mighty politicians don't even know the meaning of the word."
 - B. The charge of injustice is made. v.2
 - 1. In your hearts ye devise wrong.
 - 2. Your hands deal out violence.
 - C. Verse 3 states the basic cause for their actions. They are permitting their depraved nature to rule their actions.
 - D. Verse 4 characterizes their practices as being like the poison of a snake.
 - E. Verses. 4 and 5 set forth their conceited, self sufficient attitude.
 - 1. They stop their ears to the voice of God.
 - 2. Their attitude is..I don't need God... I won't listen.
- II. LEARN THAT THE RIGHTEOUS CAN DO VERY LITTLE BEYOND CALLING ON GOD TO DEAL WITH THOSE WHO JUDGE FALSELY. vs. 6-8
- A. O God, Break their teeth—the great teeth of the young lions. v.6
 - B. O God, let them melt away like waters that run away. May they vanish like water. v.7
 - C. O God make their weapons useless in their hands. v.7
 - D. O God, cause them to melt and pass away like a snail. Let them dissolve into slime. v.8
 - E. O God, Cause them to be like those that die in birth. Those who never see the sun. v.8
 - F. We are not unlike David, we see so many miscarriages of justice that we get sick to our stomach many times.
- III. LEARN THAT IN HIS OWN GOOD TIME GOD WILL SUDDENLY AND DECISIVELY DEAL WITH THOSE WHO HAVE PERVERTED JUSTICE. v.9
- A. God will deal with all who pervert justice—both young and old.
 - B. He will take them away with a whirlwind before the pot can feel the heat of blazing thorns.
- IV. LEARN HOW GOD'S DEALING WITH THE WICKED SHALL AFFECT THE RIGHTEOUS. v.10

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- A. The righteous shall rejoice when God calls those who have perverted justice to account for their wicked ways.
 - B. Those who have been misused by the injustice of wicked men shall symbolically bath their feet in the blood of those who walked on them while on the earth.
- V. LEARN WHAT ALL OF HUMANITY SHOULD COME TO KNOW. v.11
- A. That God does rule with Divine justice over the whole earth. v.11
 - B. That righteous living shall be rewarded. It does pay to do right...even when we are misused. v.11