

Psalms 94:1 ¶ O LORD God, to whom vengeance belongeth; O God, to whom vengeance belongeth, shew thyself.

Psalms 94:2 Lift up thyself, thou judge of the earth: render a reward to the proud.

Obviously, this psalm begins with no title, instruction or note of authorship. John Gill makes this observation: "Some, as Jarchi and others, think this psalm was written by Moses; others, with greater probability, assign it to David; as do the Septuagint, Vulgate Latin, and all the Oriental versions; and which all but the Syriac version say it was composed to be sung on the fourth day of the week, on which day the Talmudists say it was sung...."

As is often the case with those that follow the LORD, the psalmist is perplexed as to why the LORD is allowing the wicked to prosper at the expense of those that follow Him.

In his opening statement, the psalmist acknowledges that vengeance is God's prerogative.

Psalms 94:1 "O LORD God, to whom vengeance belongeth; O God, to whom vengeance belongeth, shew thyself."

Romans 12:19 "Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord."

In light of that truth, he is pleading with God, the sovereign judge of earth, to intervene and render justice to these arrogant evildoers.

Spurgeon's comment is just as valid today as he thought it in his day: "Truly in these evil days we need a manifest display of his power, for the ancient enemies of God and man are again struggling for the mastery, and if they gain it, woe unto the saints of God."

**Psalms 94:3 LORD, how long shall the wicked, how long shall the wicked triumph?
Psalms 94:4 How long shall they utter and speak hard things? and all the workers of iniquity boast themselves?**

I can relate to the heart of the psalmist as he questions how long God is going to let the wicked continue to triumph and get away with their impudence and boasting.

Psalms 94:5 They break in pieces thy people, O LORD, and afflict thine heritage.

Psalms 94:6 They slay the widow and the stranger, and murder the fatherless.

Psalms 94:7 Yet they say, The LORD shall not see, neither shall the God of Jacob regard it.

The psalmist is distressed at how the wicked are inflicting suffering on God's people. They even stoop so low as to take the lives of the helpless and needy, all the while thinking that the LORD God of Jacob can't see—and even if He can, He does not care.

Psalms 94:8 Understand, ye brutish among the people: and ye fools, when will ye be wise?

Psalms 94:9 He that planted the ear, shall he not hear? he that formed the eye, shall he not see?

Psalms 94:10 He that chastiseth the heathen, shall not he correct? he that teacheth man knowledge, shall not he know?

The psalmist questions when these stupid (from Hebrew for “brutish”) and silly people will wise up. The God that created the ear and the eye both hears and sees. He chastises, punishes, reforms and corrects nations and individuals. He is the source of knowledge; He knows everything.

Psalms 94:11 The LORD knoweth the thoughts of man, that they are vanity.

The LORD even knows the very thoughts of man; they are vain and intent on leading others astray (from the Hebrew), away from the things of God.

Psalms 94:12 ¶ Blessed is the man whom thou chastenest, O LORD, and teachest him out of thy law;

Psalms 94:13 That thou mayest give him rest from the days of adversity, until the pit be digged for the wicked.

The psalmist declares that the man that God chastens and teaches His law is blessed and happy.

Hebrews 12:5–6 “My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him: For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth.”

The man who follows God in faith will inherit an eternal rest while the wicked will suffer in an opened (from Hebrew for “digged”) pit (hell) for eternity.

Isaiah 14:15 “Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit.”

Ezekiel 31:16 “I made the nations to shake at the sound of his fall, when I cast him down to hell with them that descend into the pit....”

Revelation 20:2–3 “And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, And cast him into the bottomless pit....”

Psalms 94:14 For the LORD will not cast off his people, neither will he forsake his inheritance.

Psalms 94:15 But judgment shall return unto righteousness: and all the upright in heart shall follow it.

The psalmist is confident that the LORD will never forsake His people, the descendants of Abraham through Jacob. Inheritance is a reference to possession. The LORD declared through Moses that the people of Israel were His special possession among the nations on planet earth.

Deuteronomy 32:8–9 “When the most High divided to the nations their inheritance, when he separated the sons of Adam, he set the bounds of the people according to the number of the children of Israel. For the LORD’S portion is his people; Jacob is the lot of his inheritance.”

He is confident that the time is coming when righteousness will rule to the benefit of God’s people. Though referencing the people of Israel in context, the application is valid to all those that are followers of God.

Psalms 94:16 Who will rise up for me against the evildoers? or who will stand up for me against the workers of iniquity?

The psalmist continues to struggle in spite of his faith—and don’t we all. He wonders who is going to show up in his defense against the wicked.

Psalms 94:17 Unless the LORD had been my help, my soul had almost dwelt in silence.

Psalms 94:18 When I said, My foot slippeth; thy mercy, O LORD, held me up.

He realizes that without the LORD, he would have died. He found strength and comfort in God’s lovingkindness and mercy.

Psalms 94:19 In the multitude of my thoughts within me thy comforts delight my soul.

I liked the NLT for this verse: *“When doubts filled my mind, your comfort gave me renewed hope and cheer.”*

We believers are so blessed today to have the presence of the Holy Spirit within us to provide comfort and strength!

John 14:16–17 “And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.”

Ephesians 3:14–16 “For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man;”

Psalms 94:20 Shall the throne of iniquity have fellowship with thee, which frameth mischief by a law?

I liked the NIV for this verse: *“Can a corrupt throne be allied with you — one that brings on misery by its decrees?”*

The obvious answer is “no.” However, we have to remember that God sometimes uses wicked rulers to judge nations. When He does, the results always align with His will; however, they are still held accountable for their wickedness. They are acting according to their own choosing Example:

Isaiah 10:5-6 & 12 "O Assyrian, the rod of mine anger, and the staff in their hand is mine indignation. I will send him against an hypocritical nation, and against the people of my wrath will I give him a charge, to take the spoil, and to take the prey, and to tread them down like the mire of the streets....Wherefore it shall come to pass, that when the Lord hath performed his whole work upon mount Zion and on Jerusalem, I will punish the fruit of the stout heart of the king of Assyria, and the glory of his high looks."

Psalms 94:21 They gather themselves together against the soul of the righteous, and condemn the innocent blood.

These corrupt men band together to oppose the righteous and make trouble for the innocent.

I think that truth is quite evident in our daily news in America today. I am amazed at the lengths to which people will go as they band together to act against even those that don't agree with their agenda, let alone those that stand for the truth of God's word.

Psalms 94:22 But the LORD is my defence; and my God is the rock of my refuge.

Psalms 94:23 And he shall bring upon them their own iniquity, and shall cut them off in their own wickedness; yea, the LORD our God shall cut them off.

The psalmist closes on a high note. He claims the LORD God as his refuge and strong shelter. He is confident that God will judge the wicked and destroy them in their sin.