

PSALM 10

“When God’s Grace Wears Thin”

David cries out, “How long?” He wanted God to judge the wicked. Yet ponder for a moment, the reason that you have not received your due? If we all got what we actually deserved, we would perish. Why do we thirst for grace yet demand justice for others? David in this Psalm cries out to God against the self-reliant and godless .

1. **Why does God stand far off and hide Himself in times of trouble?** David voices a common human lament. In crisis we want divine intervention, now. Yet God misses nothing and cares for His people.
 - a. In his arrogance the wicked hunts down the weak, plotting and scheming (Ps 73:6, 1 Jn 2:15-17). His mind is focused on himself and his “needs.”
 - b. He boasts of the cravings of his heart (Gen 11:4 - again, “it’s all about me”).
 - He blesses the greedy (Is 5:20)
 - He reviles the Lord.
 - c. He is godless yet probably outwardly a believer (e.g., Ps 55:12-14).
 - Prosperous (Is 5:21)
 - Proud and godless (Too full of “me” to have room for God). God’s word/law not important to him.
 - He sneers at his enemies/opponents.
 - He has *plans* - just full of optimism and schemes. Yet God is working (Prv 1:23).
 - His mouth gives him away (Mtt 12:34, 15:18-20; Mk 7:19)
 - d. He lurks like a beast of prey - one trusts him at their peril (Prv 1:8-19).
2. **Arise, Lord and raise your hand in judgment (Is 1:5-9, 9:12, 17, 21c; 10:4b).**
 - a. Remember the helpless. (Did He ever forget?!)
 - b. Why are the godless confident (2 Pet 3:3-7)?
 - c. God sees it all and acts (Dt 24:14-15, Ps 62:10, Jer 22:13, Ez 22:13, Is 5:1-17, Jas 5:4).
 - d. Those victimized turn to God, He is their Helper.
 - e. David cries out for God to “break the arms” (i.e., pull the fangs) of the wicked and hold them accountable.
 - f. God is King over the nations and will endure even as they pass.
 - He hears, encourages, listens.
 - He is the defender of the oppressed and orphaned.

Some thoughts to ponder:

What in our lives tends to keep us from God? (Heb 12:1-3)

Why do we get blindsided by the sin of others?

How can a believer live like an atheist?

What is the remedy for such living? (Prv 3:5-6)