

PSALMS
Book Three
Psalm 83

A song. A psalm of Asaph

1. O God, do not keep silent; be not quiet (“*be not deaf*”), O God, be not still. (“*not quiet*”)

a. See how Your enemies are astir (“*they roar, growl*”), how Your foes (“*they that hate you*”) rear their heads (“*have grown proud/bold/arrogant*”).

- With cunning they conspire (“*crafty, malign counsel*”) Your people; they plot against those You cherish (*God’s “hidden ones”*). (Ps 31:19-21, 119:114)
- “Come,” they say, “let us destroy (“*cut off, wipe out*”) them as a nation, that the name of Israel be remembered no more.” (Is 7:1-10, Jer 11:19, Es 3:6)
- With one mind they plot together; they form an alliance against You - the tents of Edom and the Ishmaelites, of Moab and the Hagrites, Gebal, Ammon and Amalek, Philistia, with the people of Tyre. (*Literally, all the surrounding nations*)

b. Even Assyria has joined them to lend strength to the descendants of Lot.

Selah

2. Do to them as You did to Sisera and Jabin at the river Kishon, who perished at Endor and became like refuse on the ground. (Jud 4, Jud 7)

a. Make their nobles like Oreb and Zeeb, all their princes like Zebah and Zalmunnah, who said, “Let us take possession of the pasturelands of God.”

b. Make them like tumbleweed (“*stubble, chaff, dust carried by the wind*”), O my God, like chaff before the wind. (Ps 1:4, 35:4-6)

c. As fire consumes the forest or a flame sets the mountains ablaze, so pursue them with Your tempest (*a violent wind-storm*) and terrify them with Your storm (*again, a reference to a violent wind*).

d. Cover their faces with shame (“*dishonor*”) so that men will seek Your name, O LORD.

- May they ever be ashamed and dismayed; may they perish in disgrace. (Ex 7:5, 14:18)
- Let them know that You, whose name is the LORD - that You alone are the Most High over all the earth.

Ok, to clarify this, remember:

Judgment is the Lord’s, not ours (Dt 32:35, Lk 6:27-35, Rom 12:14-21)

- **We are to trust Him to be our Vindicator and to do what love demands.**
- **It is always ok to take our complaints to the “Management.” (See Rev 6:10)**
- **When someone has wronged you, do you pray about them or for them (Lk 6:28)?**