

God Himself Is Judge (c. David/Solomon)

Psalm 50

A Psalm by Asaph.

- 1 The mighty God, *even* the LORD, hath spoken, and called the earth from the rising of the sun unto the going down thereof.
- 2 Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God hath shined.
- 3 Our God shall come, and shall not keep silence: a fire shall devour before him, and it shall be very tempestuous round about him.
- 4 He shall call to the heavens from above, and to the earth, that he may judge his people.
- 5 Gather my saints together unto me; those that have made a covenant with me by sacrifice.
- 6 And the heavens shall declare his righteousness: for God *is* judge himself. Selah.
- 7 Hear, O my people, and I will speak; O Israel, and I will testify against thee: *I am* God, *even* thy God.
- 8 I will not reprove thee for thy sacrifices or thy burnt offerings, *to have been* continually before me.
- 9 I will take no bullock out of thy house, *nor* he goats out of thy folds.
- 10 For every beast of the forest *is* mine, *and* the cattle upon a thousand hills.
- 11 I know all the fowls of the mountains: and the wild beasts of the field *are* mine.
- 12 If I were hungry, I would not tell thee: for the world *is* mine, and the fullness thereof.
- 13 Will I eat the flesh of bulls, or drink the blood of goats?
- 14 Offer unto God thanksgiving; and pay thy vows unto the most High:
- 15 And call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me.
- 16 But unto the wicked God saith, What hast thou to do to declare my statutes, or *that* thou shouldest take my covenant in thy mouth?
- 17 Seeing thou hatest instruction, and castest my words behind thee.
- 18 When thou sawest a thief, then thou consentedst with him, and hast been partaker with adulterers.
- 19 Thou givest thy mouth to evil, and thy tongue frameth deceit.
- 20 Thou sittest *and* speakest against thy brother; thou slanderest thine own mother's son.
- 21 These *things* hast thou done, and I kept silence; thou thoughtest that I was altogether *such an one* as thyself: *but* I will reprove thee, and set *them* in order before thine eyes.
- 22 Now consider this, ye that forget God, lest I tear *you* in pieces, and *there be* none to deliver.
- 23 Whoso offereth praise glorifieth me: and to him that ordereth *his* conversation *aright* will I shew the salvation of God.

God Is My Strength and Portion Forever (c. David/Solomon)

Psalm 73

A Psalm by Asaph.

- 1 Truly God *is* good to Israel, *even* to such as are of a clean heart.
- 2 But as for me, my feet were almost gone; my steps had well nigh slipped.
- 3 For I was envious at the foolish, *when* I saw the prosperity of the wicked. [cf. [Ps 37:1–2, 7–11; 92:6–7; Pro 24:19–20; Jer 12:1–6](#)]
- 4 For *there are* no bands in their death: but their strength *is* firm.
- 5 They *are* not in trouble *as other* men; neither are they plagued like *other* men.
- 6 Therefore pride compasseth them about as a chain; violence covereth them *as* a garment.
- 7 Their eyes stand out with fatness: they have more than heart could wish.
- 8 They are corrupt, and speak wickedly *concerning* oppression: they speak loftily.
- 9 They set their mouth against the heavens, and their tongue walketh through the earth.
- 10 Therefore his people return hither: and waters of a full *cup* are wrung out to them.
- 11 And they say, How doth God know? and is there knowledge in the most High?
- 12 Behold, these *are* the ungodly, who prosper in the world; they increase *in* riches.
- 13 Verily I have cleansed my heart *in* vain, and washed my hands in innocence.
- 14 For all the day long have I been plagued, and chastened every morning.
- 15 If I say, I will speak thus; behold, I should offend *against* the generation of thy children.
- 16 When I thought to know this, it *was* too painful for me;
- 17 Until I went into the sanctuary of God; *then* understood I their end.
- 18 Surely thou didst set them in slippery places: thou castedst them down into destruction.
- 19 How are they *brought* into desolation, as in a moment! they are utterly consumed with terrors.
- 20 As a dream when *one* awaketh; *so*, O Lord, when thou awakest, thou shalt despise their image.
- 21 Thus my heart was grieved, and I was pricked in my reins.
- 22 So foolish *was* I, and ignorant: I *was as* a beast before thee.
- 23 Nevertheless I *am* continually with thee: thou hast holden *me* by my right hand.
- 24 Thou shalt guide me with thy counsel, and afterward receive me *to* glory.
- 25 Whom have I in heaven *but thee?* and *there is* none upon earth *that* I desire beside thee.

26 My flesh and my heart faileth: *but* God *is* the strength of my heart, and my portion for ever.
 27 For, lo, they that are far from thee shall perish: thou hast destroyed all them that go a whoring from thee.
 28 But *it is* good for me to draw near to God: I have put my trust in the Lord God, that I may declare all thy works.

God Will Judge with Equity (c. David/Solomon)

Psalm 75

To the chief Musician, Altaschith,

A Psalm or Song of Asaph.

1 Unto thee, O God, do we give thanks, *unto thee* do we give thanks: for *that* thy name is near thy wondrous works declare.
 2 When I shall receive the congregation I will judge uprightly.
 3 The earth and all the inhabitants thereof are dissolved: I bear up the pillars of it. Selah.
 4 I said unto the fools, Deal not foolishly: and to the wicked, Lift not up the horn:
 5 Lift not up your horn on high: speak *not with* a stiff neck.
 6 For promotion *cometh* neither from the east, nor from the west, nor from the south.
 7 But God *is* the judge: he putteth down one, and setteth up another.
 8 For in the hand of the LORD *there is* a cup, and the wine is red; it is full of mixture; and he poureth out of the same: but the dregs thereof, all the wicked of the earth shall wring *them* out, and drink *them*.
 9 But I will declare for ever; I will sing praises to the God of Jacob.
 10 All the horns of the wicked also will I cut off; *but* the horns of the righteous shall be exalted.

Who Can Stand Before You? (c. David/Solomon)

Psalm 76

To the chief Musician on Neginoth,

A Psalm or Song of Asaph.

1 In Judah *is* God known: his name *is* great in Israel.
 2 In Salem also is his tabernacle, and his dwelling place in Zion.
 3 There brake he the arrows of the bow, the shield, and the sword, and the battle. Selah.
 4 Thou *art* more glorious *and* excellent than the mountains of prey.
 5 The stouthearted are spoiled, they have slept their sleep: and none of the men of might have found their hands.
 6 At thy rebuke, O God of Jacob, both the chariot and horse are cast into a dead sleep.
 7 Thou, *even* thou, *art* to be feared: and who may stand in thy sight when once thou art angry?
 8 Thou didst cause judgment to be heard from heaven; the earth feared, and was still,
 9 When God arose to judgment, to save all the meek of the earth. Selah.
 10 Surely the wrath of man shall praise thee: the remainder of wrath shalt thou restrain.
 11 Vow, and pay unto the LORD your God: let all that be round about him bring presents unto him that ought to be feared.
 12 He shall cut off the spirit of princes: *he is* terrible to the kings of the earth.

In the Day of Trouble I Seek the Lord (c. David/Solomon)

Psalm 77

To the chief Musician, to Jeduthun,

A Psalm of Asaph.

1 I cried unto God with my voice, *even* unto God with my voice; and he gave ear unto me.
 2 In the day of my trouble I sought the Lord: my sore ran in the night, and ceased not: my soul refused to be comforted.
 3 I remembered God, and was troubled: I complained, and my spirit was overwhelmed. Selah.
 4 Thou holdest mine eyes waking: I am so troubled that I cannot speak.
 5 I have considered the days of old, the years of ancient times.
 6 I call to remembrance my song in the night: I commune with mine own heart: and my spirit made diligent search.
 7 Will the Lord cast off for ever? and will he be favorable no more?
 8 Is his mercy clean gone for ever? doth *his* promise fail for evermore?
 9 Hath God forgotten to be gracious? hath he in anger shut up his tender mercies? Selah.
 10 And I said, This *is* my infirmity: *but I will remember* the years of the right hand of the most High.
 11 I will remember the works of the LORD: surely I will remember thy wonders of old.
 12 I will meditate also of all thy work, and talk of thy doings.
 13 Thy way, O God, *is* in the sanctuary: who *is so* great a God as *our* God?

14 Thou *art* the God that doest wonders: thou hast declared thy strength among the people.
15 Thou hast with *thine* arm redeemed thy people, the sons of Jacob and Joseph. Selah.
16 The waters saw thee, O God, the waters saw thee; they were afraid: the depths also were troubled.
17 The clouds poured out water: the skies sent out a sound: thine arrows also went abroad.
18 The voice of thy thunder *was* in the heaven: the lightnings lightened the world: the earth trembled and shook.
19 Thy way *is* in the sea, and thy path in the great waters, and thy footsteps are not known.
20 Thou leddest thy people like a flock by the hand of Moses and Aaron.

Scripture quotations are from The King James Version (KJV). The KJV is in the public domain.

Chronological Notes

- 1) There are twelve psalms attributed to Asaph (50, 73–83). Asaph was a Levite musician who played a leading role in the music of worship during the time of David (1 Chr 15:17–19; 16:4–5), and whose descendants carried on the family tradition of music (Ezra 3:10). Three of these psalms are connected with the exile to Babylon (74, 79) and the fall of Samaria (80), and will be presented later in that context. The remaining nine psalms will be presented here in their canonical order. I have dated these psalms as “c. David/Solomon” to indicate that they were likely written during the reign of David or Solomon.