

God Will Avenge in Due Time

Scripture

"Why do You stand afar off, O LORD? [Why] do You hide in times of trouble? The wicked in [his] pride persecutes the poor; Let them be caught in the plots which they have devised. For the wicked boasts of his heart's desire; He blesses the greedy [and] renounces the LORD. The wicked in his proud countenance does not seek [God]; God [is] in none of his thoughts. His ways are always prospering; Your judgments [are] far above, out of his sight; [As for] all his enemies, he sneers at them. He has said in his heart, "I shall not be moved; I shall never be in adversity." His mouth is full of cursing and deceit and oppression; Under his tongue [is] trouble and iniquity. He sits in the lurking places of the villages; In the secret places he murders the innocent; His eyes are secretly fixed on the helpless. He lies in wait secretly, as a lion in his den; He lies in wait to catch the poor; He catches the poor when he draws him into his net. So he crouches, he lies low, That the helpless may fall by his strength. He has said in his heart, "God has forgotten; He hides His face; He will never see." Arise, O LORD! O God, lift up Your hand! Do not forget the humble. Why do the wicked renounce God? He has said in his heart, "You will not require [an account]." But You have seen, for You observe trouble and grief, To repay [it] by Your hand. The helpless commits himself to You; You are the helper of the fatherless. Break the arm of the wicked and the evil [man]; Seek out his wickedness [until] You find none. The LORD [is] King forever and ever; The nations have perished out of His land. LORD, You have heard the desire of the humble; You will prepare their heart; You will cause Your ear to hear, To do justice to the fatherless and the oppressed, That the man of the earth may oppress no more." (Psalms 10:1-18 NKJV)

Commentary

The psalmist asks the question that crosses every believer's mind, "Why do You stand afar off?" Or, in the modern vernacular, "Why don't you do something about the injustices?" It is difficult to see the wicked have their way when we know there is One who could do something about these evil schemes.

What we need to keep in mind is that the Lord allows men to store up wrath. "And do you think this, O man, you who judge those practicing such things, and doing the same, that you will escape the judgment of God? Or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance? But in accordance with your hardness and your impenitent heart you are treasuring up for yourself wrath in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God," (Romans 2:3-5 NKJV)

Again Paul says, "For you, brethren, became imitators of the churches of God which are in Judea in Christ Jesus. For you also suffered the same things from your own countrymen, just as they [did] from the Judeans, who killed both the Lord Jesus and their own prophets, and have persecuted us; and they do not please God and are contrary to all men, forbidding us to speak to the Gentiles that they may be saved, so as always to fill up [the measure of] their sins; but wrath has come upon them to the uttermost." (1 Thessalonians 2:14-16 NKJV)

Therefore, while we watch these evil men have their way, we must remember that God's lack of restraint actually increases their ultimate doom. Remember the Lord said, "Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but [rather] give place to wrath; for it is written, "Vengeance [is] Mine, I will repay," says the Lord." (Romans 12:19 NKJV) Also, "God [is] jealous, and the LORD avenges; The LORD avenges and [is] furious. The LORD will take vengeance on His adversaries, And He reserves [wrath] for His enemies;" (Nahum 1:2 NKJV)

Our great challenge is to love our enemies. Let us have pity instead of wrath for our adversaries. Their day will come unless they repent. Were you not on the same road to destruction? Did you not deserve to die? However, the Lord was gracious to you, and except for His grace you would be storing up wrath for the day of destruction. Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

"Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, [and] coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to [the point of] death, even the death of the cross." (Philippians 2:5-8 NKJV)