

Psalm 82

Psalms 82:1-2 [Amplified Bible] *“God stands in the assembly [of the representatives] of God, in the midst of the magistrates or judges, He gives judgement among the mighty ones [that is the judges]. How long will you magistrates or judges judge unjustly, and show partiality to the wicked? Selah [pause and calmly think of that]”*

This is a charge and condemnation of those who exercised judicial authority in a false and unjust manner.

That is having respect for persons, [Leviticus 19:15; James 2:1-10], ignoring deserving people, seeking justice.

Psalms 82:3-4 [New King James] *“Defend the poor and fatherless; do justice to the afflicted and needy. Deliver the poor and needy; free them from the hand of the wicked.”*

The Psalmist then lists such people that are being ignored and thus left to the oppression of the wicked.

These judges and rulers were called “gods” because they were representing God in executing judgement among the people.

John 10:34-36 [New King James] *“Jesus answered them, ‘Is it not written in your law, ‘I said, ‘You are gods’”? If He called them gods, to whom the word of God came (and the Scripture cannot be broken), do you say of Him whom the Father sanctified and sent into the world, ‘You are blaspheming,’ because I said, ‘I am the Son of God’?”*

Jesus Christ used these verses to defend His claim to be God.

His argument was, if you call mere human beings “gods”, why was it blasphemous [verse 33] for Him, the true Son of God, to declare Himself equal to God? [John 1:1-3, 14].

Psalms 82:5 [New King James] *“They do not know, nor do they understand; they walk about in darkness; all the foundations of the earth are unstable.”*

These judges had been accused of lack of moral discernment and partiality because of their lack of understanding as to Who had placed them in the positions they had, the Creator God, thus causing an unstable society.

Psalms 82:6-7 [New King James] *“I said, ‘You are gods, and all of you are children of the Most High. But you shall die like men, and fall like one of the princes.’”*

Although they had taken on the role of judges and magistrates, they should humbly remember that they are still human beings who will die and their role will be taken by another human being appointed by the Creator God.

John 19:10-11 [New King James] *“Then Pilate said to Him, ‘Are You not speaking to me? Do You not know that I have power to crucify You, and power to release You?’ Jesus answered, ‘You could have no power at all against Me unless it had been given you from above. Therefore the one who delivered Me to you has the greater sin.’”*

Jesus Christ reminded Pilate that the only authority he has was given to him by God the Father, and could likewise be taken from him.

Psalms 82:8 [New King James] *“Arise, O God, judge the earth; for You shall inherit all nations.”*

The final words of the Psalmist echo the hopes of all who have **not** received justice throughout the generations.

Isaiah 9:6-7 [New King James] *“For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, to order it and establish it with judgment and justice from that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.”*

This is the time that the Psalmist is looking forward to, when for the first time in human history true justice will prevail eventually worldwide.

Revelation 20:4 [New King James] *“And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received his mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.”*

All true Christians who have remained faithful to the Creator God will be part of that true justice.