

Psalm 94

Psalms 94:1 [New King James] *“O LORD God, to whom vengeance belongs, O God, to whom vengeance belongs, shine forth!”*

The Hebrew word translated “vengeance” has a prime root “naqam” meaning to punish, only the Creator God is qualified to administer punishment, for only He knows perfectly the full details and motivation behind any wrong committed.

Psalms 139:1-12 [New King James] *“O LORD, You have searched me and known me. You know my sitting down and my rising up; You understand my thought afar off. You comprehend my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways. For there is not a word on my tongue, but behold, O LORD, You know it altogether. You have hedged me behind and before, and laid Your hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high, I cannot attain it. Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? If I ascend into heaven, You are there; if I make my bed in hell, behold, You are there. If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there Your hand shall lead me, and Your right hand shall hold me. If I say, ‘Surely the darkness shall fall on me,’ even the night shall be light about me; indeed, the darkness shall not hide from You, but the night shines as the day; the darkness and the light are both alike to You.”*

No human being has the abilities that are listed in this description of the Creator God we worship and have to relate to.

Therefore punishment as a form of course correction or final sentence can only come from the Creator God.

Psalms 94:2-3 [New King James] *“Rise up, O Judge of the earth; render punishment to the proud. LORD, how long will the wicked, how long will the wicked triumph?”*

The Psalmist looks on the world in which he lives, just as we can in our generation, and use similar words in our prayers to the same Creator God, “shine forth,” to reveal the truth, “rise up” and take your place as only true ruler of this world, “how long” does humanity have to wait for the Prince of Peace, [Isaiah 9:6] to bring real peace to this world?

Psalms 94:4-7 [New King James] *“They utter speech, and speak insolent things; all the workers of iniquity boast in themselves. They break in pieces Your people, O LORD, and afflict Your heritage. They slay the widow and the stranger, and murder the fatherless. Yet they say, ‘The LORD does not see, nor does the God of Jacob understand.’”*

The Psalmist then presents the facts of what is going on throughout the world. This is a world in which there is no fear of the Creator God and His plan for all humanity.

We are in a world that the Creator God has allowed Satan to rule for a certain time [1 John 5:19] for humanity to learn just what it is like to live in a society that is devoid of God’s love, compassion and perfect wisdom.

Matthew 24:21-22 [New King James] *“For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be. And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect’s sake those days will be shortened.”*

Having tried every way that humans can think of to bring peace, the leaders have brought humanity to the very edge of destruction.

This is the only time when God will answer the “how long?” If He had done it before human leaders would in their vanity have told him “we just needed a little longer and we would have brought about peace.”

Psalms 94:8-11 [New King James] *“Understand, you senseless among the people; and you fools, when will you be wise? He who planted the ear, shall He not hear? He who formed the eye, shall He not see? He who instructs the nations, shall He not correct, He who teaches man knowledge? The LORD knows the thoughts of man, that they are futile.”*

The lack of discernment and wisdom is on the part of humans and their leaders, not God’s part.

As Creator He must be greater than His creatures, [Isaiah 64:8; Romans 9:20-21].

The Creator who made “doors” of access to the human mind and human spirit must have the right and power of entry.

As moral ruler of the humans He has created, He has the right to qualify what is right and wrong.

Humans were tempted to take over this right of the Creator God right at the beginning of their existence by Satan, [Genesis 3:1-6].

Psalms 94:12-13 [New King James] *“Blessed is the man whom You instruct, O LORD, and teach out of Your law, that You may give him rest from the days of adversity, until the pit is dug for the wicked.”*

The person who accepts the discipline of God, who is willing to be told how to live, will be blessed by the Creator God, [Psalms 119:71; Hebrews 12:5-9]. Such a person will receive from the Creator God peace of heart and mind. They are at rest inwardly even in times of adversity, which will continue until the final and full judgement of the wicked is affected.

Psalms 94:14-15 [New King James] *“For the LORD will not cast off His people, nor will He forsake His inheritance. But judgment will return to righteousness, and all the upright in heart will follow it.”*

The Creator God will never forsake those who trust Him, and they will be allowed to live righteous lives without hindrance.

Psalms 94:16 [New King James] *“Who will rise up for me against the evildoers? Who will stand up for me against the workers of iniquity?”*

This response by the all-powerful, all-wise, Sovereign, Creator God is to me one of the most exciting, to be asked to join Him in His plan to bring peace to all humanity.

Isaiah was a man who the Creator God asked the same question, and he showed us how we should reply.

Isaiah 6:1-8 [New King James] *“In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the temple. Above it stood seraphim; each one had six wings: with two he covered his face, with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. And one cried to another and said: ‘Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory!’ And the posts of the door were shaken by the voice of him who cried out, and the house was filled with smoke. So I said: ‘Woe is me, for I am undone! Because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts.’ Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a live coal which he had taken with the tongs from the altar. And he touched my mouth with it, and said: ‘Behold, this has touched your lips; Your iniquity is taken away, and your sin purged.’ Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying: ‘Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?’ Then I said, ‘Here am I! Send me.’”*

There was no “what if?” or “am I the right person?” from the lips of Isaiah. Isaiah when he replied did not even know what the job entailed, he just said “here I am! Send me.”

Psalms 94:17-19 [New King James] *“Unless the LORD had been my help, my soul would soon have settled in silence. If I say, ‘My foot slips, “Your mercy, O LORD, will hold me up. In the multitude of my anxieties within me, Your comforts delight my soul.””*

The Psalmist, as would any other human being, question their personal abilities for the job being offered, but this lack of natural abilities was shown to be in the end a plus for the disciples who became apostles, Peter and John.

Acts 4:13 [New King James] *“Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated and untrained men, they marvelled. And they realised that they had been with Jesus.”*

The key to their success was that the Spirit of Christ, the Holy Spirit, was working powerfully in them, [verse 8].

Every true Christian knows and has confidence to face any task that they are given by Jesus Christ because they know that on their own they can accomplish nothing of any real eternal importance, [John 15:4-5] but with the active Spirit of Christ, the Holy Spirit in them, God will supply all that they need, [Philippians 4:19].

Psalms 94:20-21 [New King James] *“Shall the throne of iniquity, which devises evil by law, have fellowship with You? They gather together against the life of the righteous, and condemn innocent blood.”*

The proud and wicked people cannot work with the Creator God for all their actions are hostile to the Creator God.

Psalms 94:22 [New King James] *“But the LORD has been my defence, and my God the rock of my refuge.”*

The Psalmist’s personal fellowship with the Creator God was the foundation of all he can do for the One he worships and obeys.

Psalms 94:23 [New King James] *“He has brought on them their own iniquity, and shall cut them off in their own wickedness; the LORD our God shall cut them off.”*

Eventually the wicked will be cut off by their own wickedness, the Creator God will allow this to bring them to their senses in a time when they will not be influenced by the evil power of Satan and his demons, [Revelation 20:1-3] through a resurrection back to physical life.

Only then will they accept the teaching that the Creator God will give them through His people, then resurrected spirit beings.

Revelation 20:4-6, 11-13 [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. But the rest of the dead did not live again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection. Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years.” ... “Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in*

the books. The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works.”

I join the Psalmist by praying “*how long?*”