

PSALM 79

A psalm of Asaph.

1543 / Geneva, 1551



1. Your land, O God, the na-tions have in-vad-ed;
by hea-then hordes Your her-it-age was raid-ed.
Look how they have, with-out re-straint or pit-y,
de-filed Your tem-ple and de-stroyed Your cit-y.
To car-ri-on bird and beast
they've of-fered as a feast
the saints they led to slaugh-ter;
a-round Je - ru - sa - lem,
with none to bur-y them,
their blood was poured like wa - ter.

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2. We are a taunt to those a-round us dwell-ing.
When will You come, the en-e-my ex-pel-ling?
O hear us, LORD! Will You ex-tin-guish nev-er
Your jeal-ous an-ger? Will it burn for-ev-er?
Your wrath, O LORD, pour out
on all who Your name flout.
Con-sume the god-less na-tions,
for greed-i-ly have they
seized Ja-cob as their prey
and razed his hab-i-ta-tion.

3. Do not recall the *misdeeds of our fathers*,
nor *hold their guilt against us, LORD, but rather*
show Your compassion to Your humbled nation
and *come with haste, O God of our salvation!*
O LORD, increase Your fame,
the *glory of Your name*;
free *us from all oppression*.
Have *mercy on Your own*;
for *Your name's sake alone*
forgive *us our transgression*.

4. Why should the heathen, *Israel deriding*,
ask *in contempt, "Where may their God be hiding?"*
Arise, O Lord! Strike in retaliation;
the *blood of saints avenge before the nations!*
And *may You* from Your throne
hear *how the prisoners groan*.
Your *greatness manifesting*,
preserve *us as of old*.
Repay *them sevenfold*
who *taunt You with their jesting*.

5. We shall forever *joyful praises render*
to *You, O LORD, our Shepherd and Defender*.
We as Your flock, Your chosen congregation,
shall give *You thanks through every generation*.