Psalm 109. Adversaries, Vengeance & The Lord

Joshua Creel · Psalm 109 · Series: **Psalms**

INTRODUCTION

- This is one of the Psalms that is known as an imprecatory psalm.
- To imprecate is simply to curse. And so the psalmist here, David, is actually invoking curses on his adversary.
- First of all, you have the complaint. Then you have the curse or the imprecation. Then that's followed by a prayer that concludes with praise.

1 The Complaint

Psalm 109:1–5

- O God of my praise, do not be silent. For they have opened the wicked and deceitful mouth against me.
- In return for my love, they act as my accusers, but I am in prayer.
- I have loved them, but they accuse me. I pray for them, but they hate me.

2 He Invokes a Curse

Psalm 109:6–20; Acts 1:20; Exodus 20:5

- David is cursing from the standpoint of this is what he wants God to do. This is not what David will take in his own hands to do.
- Let his days be few, let another take his office.
- What's he asking God to do? That justice be done.
- David is not asking a curse on one who could stand innocent, he's asking a curse on one who should be condemned because of his own behavior.

3 He Comes to the Prayer

Psalm 109:21–31

- But you, O God, the Lord, deal kindly with me for your name's sake. Because your loving kindness is good, deliver me.
- Let them curse, but you bless.
- Now David is confident that the Lord will stand at his right hand.

4 Why Curse?

Matthew 5:43–44; Leviticus 19:18

- I don't think this is strictly messianic.
- The God of the Old Testament is a God in the New Testament, too.

- All scripture is given by inspiration. But it does not mean that everything recorded in Scripture is God approved.
- David left vengeance in the Lord's hand throughout this passage.
- David viewed the glory of the Lord's name as at stake.

5 Vengeance Is the Lord's

Revelation 6

- The first application I would make is simply this, that truly the statement is true. Vengeance is the Lord's.
- Never take your own revenge, beloved. But leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.
- It is not my place to enact my own vengeance and my own revenge. God will do that.
- Spend a whole lot more time loving them and praying for them.
- He works through his anger, he works through his emotions, and he ends with his confidence and even praise.

6 Don't Be His Adversary

Psalm 109:8

- The application that always needs to be made is simply don't be his adversary.
- What had Judas done? He had set himself against the Lord. He had betrayed the Messiah.
- The Lord is just. The Lord will enact vengeance on those who have been his enemies.

> THE CHALLENGE
>
> **Because we all find ourselves at times as enemies of the Most High God. Don't be his enemy.**

MY NOTES