

PRONOUNCE THEM GUILTY, O GOD

Psalms 5

REVIEW OF PSALM 4

1. The challenge to be righteous
2. Praying to a God of his righteousness
 - a. God is a God of righteousness
 - b. Personal righteousness as a prime basis for God to answer prayer
3. Knowing that God has set apart him who is godly
4. Practices during prayer
 - a. Be angry and not to sin
 - b. Meditation and to be still
5. Post prayer practices
 - a. Offer the sacrifice of righteousness
 - b. Trust in the Lord

HAVING A FORM OF PRAYER PSALM 5

1. Having a form of prayer - Praying to God as a righteous King

“Give ear to my words, O Lord,
Consider my meditation.
Give heed to the voice of my cry,
My King and my God,
For to You I will pray.
My voice You shall hear in the morning, O Lord;
In the morning I will direct *it* to You,
And I will look up.” Psalm 5:1-3

2. Seeing God as righteous in dealing with the wicked

“For You *are* not a God who takes pleasure in wickedness,
Nor shall evil ^[d]dwell with You.
The boastful shall not stand in Your sight;
You hate all workers of iniquity.
You shall destroy those who speak falsehood;
The Lord abhors the bloodthirsty and deceitful man.” Psalm 5:4-6

3. Asking God to lead him in righteousness

“But as for me, I will come into Your house in the multitude of Your mercy;
In fear of You I will worship toward ^[d]Your holy temple.

Lead me, O Lord, in Your righteousness because of my enemies;
Make Your way straight before my face.” Psalm 5:7-8

THE PROBLEM OF SELF-RIGHTEOUSNESS IN PRAYER

“For *there is* no faithfulness in their mouth;
Their inward part *is* destruction;
Their throat *is* an open tomb;
They flatter with their tongue.

Pronounce them guilty, O God! Let them fall by their own counsels;
Cast them out in the multitude of their transgressions,
For they have rebelled against You.” Psalm 5:9-10

1. Seeing the worst in his enemies
 - a. Their words
 - i. No faithfulness in their mouth
 - ii. Their throat is an open tomb
 - iii. They flatter with their tongue
 - b. Their inward parts - Only destruction in their heart
2. Imprecatory element in his prayer
 - a. He asked God to pronounce them guilty
 - b. They should fall by their own counsel
 - i. Whatever they have stated against the Psalmist
 - ii. They would fall by their very words stated
 - c. They were to be cast out by their many transgression
 - d. They were to be condemned by their own sins

THE DANGER OF ENDING UP WITH SELF-RIGHTEOUSNESS

1. The Psalmist ended up being more self-righteousness
2. As he thought of the righteousness of God and his righteousness, he over-extended himself
3. He became self-righteous in his approach towards his enemies
4. He prayed a prayer for God to destroy them

DEALING WITH SELF RIGHTEOUSNESS

1. Do not judge Matt. 7:1-5
 - a. The problem of self-righteousness
 - i. How we judge others, it would be measured in return to us

- ii. Judging others for the speck in the brother's eye
 - iii. And not considering the plank in our own eye
 - b. The need to look at self first
 - c. The challenge to not judge others
- 2. The parable of the Pharisee and tax collector Luke 18:9-14
 - a. The prayer of the Pharisee
 - i. He prayed with himself
 - ii. He thanked God that he is not like the tax collector
 - iii. He praised himself
 - b. The prayer of the tax collector
 - i. He was deeply penitent
 - ii. He only asked for mercy because he is a sinner
 - iii. His prayer was heard but not the prayer of the Pharisee
 - c. Those who exalt themselves will be humbled
 - d. Those who humble themselves would be exalted