

Bible Study: Book of Psalms

Date	May 21, 2025	Wednesday Night Class
Connecting Scriptures/Thoughts	Psalms 82	
<p>In Psalms 82:6, the judges of Israel were called "gods" because of their representative position of authority and responsibility among the people. These judges were God's representatives, charged with executing fair and impartial judgments in Israel (Psalms 82:2-4). To go before the judges was to go before God (cf. Exodus 21:6; 22:8-9,28), for they were charged with rendering God's judgments (Deuteronomy 1:16-17).</p> <p>Jeremiah 5:1 God waits for Judges to behave righteously</p> <p>Eccl 8:11 What happens when judges do not behave righteously.</p> <p>Earthly judges still suffer physical death(gods) don't die.</p> <p>The 82nd Psalm depicts God rebuking these "gods" (the unjust judges) for their corruption of justice. Because they failed to judge righteously, God would now judge them (Psalms 82:1,7-8). Even so, because of their God-given position of power, the psalmist called the unrighteous judges "gods."</p> <p>Connection to John 10:34</p>	<p>[1] God has taken his place in the divine council; in the midst of the gods he holds judgment:</p> <p>[2] "How long will you judge unjustly and show partiality to the wicked? Selah</p> <p>[3] Give justice to the weak and the fatherless; maintain the right of the afflicted and the destitute.</p> <p>[4] Rescue the weak and the needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked."</p> <p>[5] They have neither knowledge nor understanding, they walk about in darkness; all the foundations of the earth are shaken.</p> <p>[6] I said, "You are gods, sons of the Most High, all of you;</p> <p>[7] nevertheless, like men you shall die, and fall like any prince."</p> <p>[8] Arise, O God, judge the earth; for you shall inherit all the nations! (ESV)</p>	

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<p>In the midst of suffering at the hands of the enemies a Psalm of vengeance is written.</p> <p>In the midst of horrible oppression and suffering, such as being conquered, or let's say genocide would not an individual call on God for Justice? The bible also reveals the sufferings that individuals and nations faced. (so we can better understand such circumstances)</p> <p>Matthew 6:8</p> <p>One aspect that we talk about as humans is that until you actually experience something, it is difficult to empathize with what someone may have suffered.</p> <p>Death of a close loved one, violent crimes, mental illness, war, yet we all try to pass on advice as if we have lived through the same.</p> <p>Even though this Psalm seems to be driven by revenge, it can very well be driven by suffering</p> <p>Notice the final goal of the Psalmist in verse 16 & 18</p> <p>Matthew 24:9 What should we expect?</p> <p>1 John 5:4 we might be outnumbered, outgunned but God wins!</p>	<p>[1] O God, do not keep silence; do not hold your peace or be still, O God!</p> <p>[2] For behold, your enemies make an uproar; those who hate you have raised their heads.</p> <p>[3] They lay crafty plans against your people; they consult together against your treasured ones.</p> <p>[4] They say, "Come, let us wipe them out as a nation; let the name of Israel be remembered no more!"</p> <p>[5] For they conspire with one accord; against you they make a covenant—</p> <p>[6] the tents of Edom and the Ishmaelites, Moab and the Hagrites,</p> <p>[7] Gebal and Ammon and Amalek, Philistia with the inhabitants of Tyre;</p> <p>[8] Asshur also has joined them; they are the strong arm of the children of Lot. Selah</p> <p>[9] Do to them as you did to Midian, as to Sisera and Jabin at the river Kishon,</p> <p>[10] who were destroyed at En-dor, who became dung for the ground.</p> <p>[11] Make their nobles like Oreb and Zeeb, all their princes like Zebah and Zalmunna,</p> <p>[12] who said, "Let us take possession for ourselves of the pastures of God."</p> <p>[13] O my God, make them like whirling dust, like chaff before the wind.</p> <p>[14] As fire consumes the forest, as the flame sets the mountains ablaze,</p> <p>[15] so may you pursue them with your tempest and terrify them with your hurricane!</p> <p>[16] Fill their faces with shame, that they may seek your name, O LORD.</p> <p>[17] Let them be put to shame and dismayed forever; let them perish in disgrace,</p> <p>[18] that they may know that you alone, whose name is the LORD,</p>	

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are the Most High over all the earth. (ESV)

Date	May 21, 2025	
Connecting Scriptures/Thoughts	Psalm 84	
<p>There is a longing to want to be in the presence of the Lord. The writer wants to be with God.</p> <p>V5-7 seem to be covering the Journey, Welcome to the Journey. Where is your heart? Does it desire to be with God or doing something else? V5</p> <p>Matthew 6:21</p> <p>What excuse will you give for not wanting to worship and be with God? Luke 14:15-23</p> <p>V10 is a critical point for this writer, he said only 1 day in heaven is better than doing ANYTHING else for a 1,000 days.</p> <p>God will withhold nothing good from those who walk upright. Do you remember how we said Israel limited what God could have done through Him? Here God is not holding anything back from His people.</p>	<p>[1] How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD of hosts!</p> <p>[2] My soul longs, yes, faints for the courts of the LORD; my heart and flesh sing for joy to the living God.</p> <p>[3] Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God.</p> <p>[4] Blessed are those who dwell in your house, ever singing your praise! Selah</p> <p>[5] Blessed are those whose strength is in you, in whose heart are the highways to Zion.</p> <p>[6] As they go through the Valley of Baca they make it a place of springs; the early rain also covers it with pools.</p> <p>[7] They go from strength to strength; each one appears before God in Zion.</p> <p>[8] O LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; give ear, O God of Jacob! Selah</p> <p>[9] Behold our shield, O God; look on the face of your anointed!</p> <p>[10] For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness.</p> <p>[11] For the LORD God is a sun and shield; the LORD bestows favor and honor. No good thing does he withhold from those who walk uprightly.</p> <p>[12] O LORD of hosts,blessed is the one who trusts in you! (ESV)</p>	