

Series: Psalms
Title: Three Requests
Text: Psalm 9: 19-20
Date: June 28, 2012
Place: SGBC, New Jersey

Psalm 9: 19: ARISE, O LORD...

By faith, believers see God the Father and Christ our Savior is our just Judge sitting upon the judgment-seat ruling for us. He presides over heaven and earth like a judge in a courtroom. When God arises, the fierceness of the ungodly immediately bows to him.

Proposition: However proud and strong our enemies may appear they are in the hand of our God. So our prayer to God is, Arise, O LORD.

Title: Three Requests

Divisions: I. v19: LET NOT MAN PREVAIL; II. FOR GOD TO DO WHAT HE JUDGE RIGHT IN HIS SIGHT--V19: LET THE HEATHEN BE JUDGED IN THY SIGHT; III. THAT GOD WOULD CALL OUT HIS ELECT FROM AMONG THEM—V20: PUT THEM IN FEAR, O LORD: THAT THE NATIONS MAY KNOW THEMSELVES *TO BE BUT MEN*. SELAH.

I. LET NOT MAN PREVAIL

If man were allowed to prevail in his sinful, God-hating desire: 1) Man would take God off his throne, 2) Man would put a division between God and his children 3) Man would destroy mankind.

Man would do it for covetousness. Natural man is a fallen, covetous, self-seeking, vain creature ruled by money, self-gain.

1 Timothy 6:10:...the love of money is the root of ALL evil:...

Selfish gain makes judgment and righteousness take a back seat and oppression rule the day!

3 examples:

1) Companies patent on seed is patent on life.

Listen carefully, believer, this tree called fallen mankind has the love of self-gain coursing from its very roots into all its branches so that the only fruit depraved man produces is poison. One very practical example: genetically engineered seed is labeled a pesticide. That's the only kind of fruit depraved man produces—poison—even the very best men, have sinned and come short of the glory of God.

2) Religion is corrupted by money and self-gain the same way.

Preachers who are doctors of divinity, buildings, and programs full of activity are used as the attractants. But they all cost lots of money. The gospel of Christ and him crucified does not make money—the gospel is offensive, it divides, it puts sinners in the dust and Christ triumphant ruling all things. When the gospel attracts it is because **the Lord addeth to the church such as should be saved.**

But to pay for other attractions they must preach up man and preach down God, preach up religious activity and preach down the works of God and “the wicked walk on every side, when the vilest men are exalted.” (Ps 12: 8)

3) Unseen corruption. Believer, remember, there is much more powerful evil above that which you and I see with these eyes—secular and religious.

Ephesians 6: 12: For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high *places*.

Application: These things strike fear in a believer’s heart. They should. We are powerless against them. But I have given these examples because none of these things is new. Corruption is as old as sin. Let me give you just one example of many, in the scriptures. Israel’s rulers were corrupted: both, religious and civil.

Isaiah 5: 7: For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts *is* the house of Israel, and the men of Judah his pleasant plant: and he looked for judgment, but behold oppression; for righteousness, but behold a cry.

Isaiah 9: 15: The ancient and honourable, he *is* the head; and the prophet that teacheth lies, he *is* the tail. 16: For the leaders of this people cause *them* to err; and *they that are* led of them *are* destroyed. 17: Therefore the Lord shall have no joy in their young men, neither shall have mercy on their fatherless and widows: for every one *is* an hypocrite and an evildoer, and every mouth speaketh folly.

Application: Believer, don’t look to man—we can’t expect to find the cure in the cancer! Look not to protest groups made of men or legislative bodies made of men—our strength is not in man.

Look to the LORD whose hand is working all these things together for good to them that love the Lord, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

We need not drive to DC. We don’t have to make our voice heard in the capital. We have the ear of the King of kings and the Lord of lords!

We only need to go into our closet, approach his glorious high throne and make this request, “**ARISE, O LORD, LET NOT MAN PREVAIL.**”

The Lord will not end the evil yet but he will speak peace to our hearts. His word which stills our troubled hearts is “Fear not!”

Isaiah 42: 13: The LORD shall go forth as a mighty man, he shall stir up jealousy like a man of war: he shall cry, yea, roar; he shall prevail against his enemies.

1 Samuel 2: 9: He will keep the feet of his saints, and the wicked shall be silent in darkness; for by strength shall no man prevail.

Man can be bribed, but not our Victorious Redeemer!

Isaiah 45: 13: I have raised him up in righteousness, and I will direct all his ways: he shall build my city, and he shall let go my captives, not for price nor reward, saith the LORD of hosts.

Application: When you see all the wickedness in this world remember that the Lord has left it here and left his purchased possession in the midst of this evil on purpose. He has done it to teach us that our strength is not in man or ourselves but our strength is the Lord. **Our LORD shall prevail!**

- Could we prevail in fulfilling the law? He prevailed for us.
- Could we prevail in justifying ourselves from the curse? He prevailed for us.
- Could we prevail in recreating ourselves after his image in righteousness and holiness? He prevailed within us.
- Can we prevail in keeping ourselves from the evil even for a minute? He prevails for us.
- Look away from the evil, to our Shield and Defender who sits on his throne in glory.

Illustration: The diver a watertight suit. He is surrounded by water but preserved from it. The believer in this evil world is surrounded by evil, but we are preserved by the mighty power of God.

Application: Remember, God will have us to ask him to help.

Ezekiel 36: 36: Then the heathen that are left round about you shall know that I the LORD build the ruined *places*, and plant that that was desolate: I the LORD have spoken *it*, and I will do *it*. 37 Thus saith the Lord GOD; I will yet *for* this be enquired of by the house of Israel, to do *it* for them; I will increase them with men like a flock.

So we ask him, Ps 9: 19 *Arise, O LORD; let not man prevail...*

II. OUR SECOND REQUEST IS FOR THE LORD TO DO WITH THE NATIONS WHAT IS JUST IN HIS SIGHT—v19: “LET THE HEATHEN BE JUDGED IN THY SIGHT”

We ask for God to vindicate and save his children from the power of those who oppress and wrong us according to what is his right and just judgment. What a relief to know the burden of executing what is just in this earth on our behalf is in the hands of the holy Judge of heaven and earth. And he shall do right.

Genesis 18: 25: That be far from thee to do after this manner, to slay the righteous with the wicked: and that the righteous should be as the wicked, that be far from thee: Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?

There was one righteous man in Sodom—**called just Lot**—and for that one man’s sake the Lord spared Sodom until he brought that man out. As long as God has one child in this earth—he shall judge the heathen for us--**Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?**

Because all his elect children are righteous in him—**“by his one offering he hath perfected forever them that are sanctified.”**—God’s saints are perfectly justified in Christ Jesus. All the sins of all God’s saints are pardoned for his sake. Because God is just...

- None of God’s saints will be separated from Christ—**God will never "cast away" ...**
- God will not cast us out of his covenant because in the blood of Christ **it is ordered in all things and sure—yea and amen!**
- God will not cast us out of the hands of his son--**none can pluck them out of his hand.**
- God will not cast us out of his family—**the son abideth forever**
- God will not allow us to perish eternally—many believers have suffered cruel deaths—**but none are able to separate us from the love of God in Christ—fear not man who is only able to kill the body—fear God who is able to save both body and soul.**

God delights in child, sets us as a seal on his heart, keeps us as the apple of his eye, and preserves us safe to his kingdom and glory. BUT GOD WILL JUDGE THE HEATHEN AND VINDICATE HIS CHILD FOR THE SAKE OF HIS SON. Bildad said,

Job 8: 20: Behold, God will not cast away a perfect *man*, neither will he help the evil doers: 21: Till he fill thy mouth with laughing, and thy lips with rejoicing. 22: They that hate thee shall be clothed with shame; and the dwelling place of the wicked shall come to nought.

Ecclesiastes 8: 12: Though a sinner do evil an hundred times, and his *days* be prolonged, yet surely I know that it shall be well with them that fear God, which fear before him: 13: But it shall not be well with the wicked, neither shall he prolong *his days*, *which are* as a shadow; because he feareth not before God.

Application: Believer, God's child is so one with Christ that the war waged against one of Christ's redeemed children is war waged against God. The LORD will save his children from wicked hands for the sake of his own Son.

Illustration: The fight in the schoolyard and the teacher.

If we would have prevailed we would not have stopped till serious injury or death. That teacher came between us. She dragged us to her classroom—she said, I am the judge, the jury, you're guilty, and I am issuing the penalty. She let not man prevail. She judged us in her sight and did what was right to save us from ourselves. Then we knew something about ourselves and something about her.

III. OUR THIRD REQUEST IS THAT THE LORD CALL OUT HIS ELECT FROM AMONG THE NATIONS—"PUT THEM IN FEAR, O LORD: THAT THE NATIONS MAY KNOW THEMSELVES TO BE BUT MEN. SELAH."

Put them in fear, O LORD—be a schoolmaster over them—make the commandment revive that they might see they have no righteousness so that they become fearful of you. The enemies of God have no fear of the LORD.

Spiritually dead sinners are bold, confident in their own strength and refuse to depart from evil and they call what they are doing wisdom

Job 28: 28: And unto man he said, Behold, the fear of the Lord, that *is* wisdom; and to depart from evil *is* understanding.

Proverbs 8: 13: The fear of the LORD *is* to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate.

What is this "fear of God?" It is a holy disposition formed in the soul by the Holy Spirit. The fear of God includes:

- A dread of God's displeasure and a desire of God's approval
- A regard for God's excellencies and submission to God's will
- Gratitude for God's benefits and sincerity in the worship of God
- Conscientious obedience to God's commands

Until God the Holy Spirit creates a new heart—men do not know themselves to be but men—but when God sanctifies himself in the new heart. He makes us to behold Christ high and lifted up then he makes a sinner stand in awe of God.

We deal unrighteously; God does all righteously. Sinner, be sure you look to the cross, there is God's own Son, that spotless lamb of God, who knew no sin, who was made sin for his elect that we might be made the righteousness of God in him. Do you see how God must do all things in righteousness because he is holy God?

We deal unjustly; God does all justly. When “he laid on him the iniquity” of all his elect...God spared not his own Son, but delivered him up. God will by no means clear the guilty. (2 Cor 5: 21; Is 53: 6; Ro 8: 22; Ex 34: 7) Sinner, God is just. Except you come believing Christ—as Paul said, Philippians 3: 9: And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith: Except you come by faith in Christ, you will be found guilty!

We rejoice in unjust judgment; God delights in just mercy. But also see how God delights to show mercy! God went to the heights and depths and width to give his only Son to justify his people justly that he might justly show them mercy. God **KEEPS MERCY** for thousands, **FORGIVING** iniquity and transgression and sin.

When sinners are made to see the holy character of God in Christ on the cross that is when we begin to have right views of self and right views of God.

We are weak and ignorant but look to the cross and see God in Wisdom and Power, by his knowledge, overruling the armies of heaven and earth, friend and foe, to justify his children from our sins—we are weak and powerless—God is Almighty Wisdom. Do you fear him?

We are unholy sinners but look to the cross and see God in perfect holiness fulfilling his law in Christ himself, see God the Father and God the Son ever pleasing himself in holy character, ever faithful to himself in complete holiness of heart, ever fulfilling all his holy purpose of exalting his holy name---we are unholy in ourselves--God is holy, separate from sinners. Do you fear the Lord?

We are born dead, dying nothings but see Christ ascended to the Father and see God our Savior is Life—Light is Life, Truth is Life, Righteousness is Life—the sun gets its brightness and life giving qualities from Christ the Sun of righteousness—in us is darkness and death of sin—in him is no darkness, no death—only Life! Do you fear the Lord?

We come forth believing we can accomplish any purpose we choose and yet we have no real purpose—like a pig in mud—but look to the cross and see God doing as he pleased from eternity, see the purpose for which he made the world, the end to which he has worked all things, the one for whose sake he continues to call out his sheep, the end to whom you will be brought to bow in grace or in judgment.

Daniel 4: 35: And all the inhabitants of the earth *are* reputed as nothing: and he doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and *among* the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What doest thou? [Do you fear the Lord?]

Sinner, what can you give to God? You and I can't give anything to God of ourselves. We can only give to God what God has already given to us.

Psalm 50: 10: For every beast of the forest *is* mine, *and* the cattle upon a thousand hills. 11: I know all the fowls of the mountains: and the wild beasts of the field *are* mine. 12: If I were hungry, I would not tell thee: for the world *is* mine, and the fulness thereof. 13: Will I eat the flesh of bulls, or drink the blood of goats? 14: Offer unto God thanksgiving; and pay thy vows unto the most High: 15: And call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me.

Application: Sinner, I pray God will work this fear in your heart that you may know yourself to be but a man. And believer, remember, if God did not work this fear in our hearts, we would think ourselves gods.

- We need God's restraining hand of grace to save us from our own hand of sin.
- We need the swelling of God's chastening providence to keep us from the swelling of our natural pride.
- We need thorns in the flesh to puncture our vain balloon so self can deflate and God remain our all.

God has shown us the love of a faithful Father to make us see we are but men. "May God give us fear of the LORD that we may know ourselves to be but men."

Review of these three requests:

Do you see friends turning from God to their own hurt? Our first request: Arise, O LORD, let not man prevail;

Do you see this world appear to prevail in wickedness and iniquity? Second, Arise, O LORD, let the heathen be judged in thy sight

Is it truly your hearts desire to see God call out his sheep from among the nations? Third, Put them in fear, O LORD: that the nations may know themselves to be but men. SELAH.

Illustration: The lifeguard and the boy in the pool.

God hears his children when we cry unto him.

Exodus 33: 17: And the LORD said unto Moses, I will do this thing also that thou hast spoken: for thou hast found grace in my sight, and I know thee by name.

So cry unto him!

Amen!