

Psalm 10 — “Dear God—The Proud Appear to Prosper! I Don’t Understand!”

The wicked flatters himself that Omniscience doesn’t see him & Omnipresence won’t catch him & Almighty Omnipotence won’t destroy him!

“There is not, in my judgment, a Psalm which describes the mind, the manners, the works, the words, the feelings, and the fate of the ungodly with so much fullness & color as this Psalm.” (Martin Luther, *of Psalm 10*)

Background to Psalm 10

- it’s an HONEST psalm - “why...why” [it’s a God-given song of a godly man’s cry!]
- it’s a NEEDED psalm - b/c of the apparent prosperity of the unblushing & shameless proud
- it’s a REAL-LIFE psalm - how are we to think, live, act w/ the proud man’s boastings?

THESIS — This psalm is an oft-neglected, but intensely needed prayer of the saint who is **Confused that the Proud Appear to Prosper.**

I. GOD — DO YOU HIDE? (1-4)**II. GOD — DO YOU HEAR? (5-13)**

1. He seems to prosper (5)
2. He speaks in pride (6, 11, 13)
3. He stealthily sneaks upon the helpless (7-10)

III. GOD — DO YOU HELP? (14-18)

- A. God helps the helpless (14)!

B. God slays the proud-rebel (15)

(In Psalm 10): The Spirit draws a full-blown portrait of sin. The mask is withdrawn. The monster is dragged forth to light. The hideous features are revealed. The Spirit's pen cannot exaggerate. The dark colors are not too dark. The deep ingredient of the wicked heart is pride. This scorns the humble followers of the Lamb, and seeks to trample them beneath insulting feet. (William Law)

C. God reigns as Eternal King! (16-17)*Marvel at God's Kingship*

1. **ESTABLISHED** kingship - he "is" king
2. **SINGULAR** kingship (unshared!) - the LORD
3. **ABSOLUTE** kingship - what he says goes; "LORD"
4. **ETERNAL** kingship - forever and ever
5. **DISPLAYED** kingship

D. God vindicates the weak! (18)**Stephen Charnock:**

- "God, apart from Christ, is an angry, offended Sovereign. Unless we behold Him in and through Christ, the Mediator, the terrors of His Majesty would overwhelm us. We dare not approach the Father except in Christ because of our sins. We first fasten our eyes upon Christ, then upon the Father. If Christ does not bear our guilt and reconcile us unto God, we perish! Before any man can think to stand before the face of God's justice or be admitted to the secret chamber of God's mercy or partake of the riches of His grace, he must look to the Mediator, Christ Jesus."

Obadiah 3-4

"The arrogance of your heart has deceived you, You who live in the clefts of the rock, In the loftiness of your dwelling place, Who say in your heart, 'Who will bring me down to earth?' "Though you build high like the eagle, Though you set your nest among the stars, From there I will bring you down," declares the LORD.

PRAISE TO THE LORD THE ALMIGHTY

Praise to the Lord,
The Almighty, the king of creation!
O my soul, praise Him,
For He is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear,
Now to His temple draw near;
Praise Him in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord,
Who, when darkness of sin is abounding,
Who, when the godless
Do triumph, all virtue confounding,

Sheddeth His light,
Chaseth the horrors of night,
Saints with His mercy surrounding.

Praise to the Lord,
O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that hath life and breath,
Come now with praises before Him.
Let the Amen sound from His people again,
Gladly forever adore Him.

Colossians 2:13-15

When you were dead in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions, having canceled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us, which was hostile to us; and He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. When He had disarmed the rulers and authorities, He made a public display of them, having triumphed over them through Him.

THE CHURCH'S ONE FOUNDATION

The Church's one foundation
Is Jesus Christ her Lord,
She is His new creation
By water and the Word:
From Heav'n He came and sought her
To be His holy bride,
With His own blood He bought her
And for her life He died.

The Church shall never perish!
Her dear Lord to defend,
To guide, sustain, and cherish,
Is with her to the end:
Though there be those who hate her,
And false sons in her pale,
Against both foe and traitor
She ever shall prevail.

Though with a scornful wonder
Men see her sore oppressed,
By schisms rent asunder,
By heresies distressed:
Yet saints their watch are keeping,
Their cry goes up, "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping
Shall be the morn of song!

Yet she on earth hath union
With God the Three in One,
And mystic sweet communion
With those whose rest is won,
O happy ones and holy!
Lord, give us grace that we
Like them, the meek and lowly,
On high may dwell with Thee!

Psalm 10 — "Dear God—The Proud Appear to Prosper! I Don't Understand!"**Psalm 10:15-17**

Break the arm of the wicked and the evildoer, Seek out his wickedness until You find none. The LORD is King forever and ever; Nations have perished from His land. O LORD, You have heard the desire of the humble; You will strengthen their heart...

PSALM 10: The Psalter

Tune: "I Sing the Mighty Power of God"

Why, Lord, do You stand far away in times of trial and pain?
The wicked ones in arrogance afflict the weak for gain.
Let them be caught in schemes they plan; the wicked boast indeed!
They boast of cravings in their heart, renounce GOD, and bless greed.

In pride they do not seek Him and they think, "There is no God!"
They prosper and consider all God's judgments as a fraud.
They sneer at foes and think these words: "For nothing can shake me.
I'll always know this happiness, and trouble I'll not see."

His mouth is full of lies and threats, and evil's on his tongue.
He waits to ambush innocent, to murder old or young.
For victims he in secret waits, like lions wait for prey;
He lurks that he may seize the poor and drag them off to slay.

He crushes helpless ones who sink and fall down hopelessly.
He says, "God has forgotten this, and He will never see."
Arise, O Lord, lift up Your hand; forget not those in need!
Why do the wicked spurn You, God, and say, "He will not heed"?

But You, God, see our woe and grief; You take it all to mind.
The helpless ones know You're their help; a father orphans find.
O break the arm of evil ones; call them before Your throne.
May all their deeds come into light, in judgment be made known.

The Lord is King for evermore, the nations will not stand.
O Lord, You hear the cries of all afflicted in the land.
For You defend the fatherless, and justice You'll outpour
so that the wicked of the earth may terrify no more.

PRAYER MEETING

The gospel: the good news of what God has done in Christ to save sinners from judgment.

1. It begins with the grace of God (Eph 2:4; Titus 3:3-4)
2. It comes through the redemption of Christ (Eph 1:7; 1 Pet 1:18; Rev 5:9-10)
3. it demands the price of blood (Rev 3:24-25; Hebrews 9:22; 1 John 1:7; Eph 2:13; Col 1:20)
4. it imputes the righteousness of Christ (Phil 3:9; 1 Cor. 1:30; Rom 4:5; 2 Cor 5:21)
5. it requires only faith in Christ (Eph 2:8-9; John 3:15-16; John 1:12-13)

The Gospel is the good news that the just and gracious Creator of the universe has looked upon hopelessly sinful men and women and sent His Son, Jesus Christ, God in the flesh, to bear His wrath against sin on the cross and to show His power over sin in the resurrection so that everyone who turns from their sin and themselves and trusts in Jesus as Savior and Lord will be reconciled to God forever.