

Psalm 79:1-13 **Prayer for defense from the enemy — Promise of Praise & Thanksgiving to all Generations**

A Dirge and a Prayer for Israel, Destroyed by Enemies

A Psalm of Asaph.

¹O Elohiym (God), the nations have come into Your inheritance; Your holy temple they have defiled; They have laid Jerusalem in heaps.

²The dead bodies of Your servants They have given *as* food for the birds of the heavens, The flesh of Your saints to the beasts of the earth.

³Their blood they have shed like water all around Jerusalem, And *there was* no one to bury *them*.

⁴We have become a reproach to our neighbors, A scorn and derision to those who are around us.

⁵How long, Yahweh (LORD)? Will You be angry forever? Will Your jealousy burn like fire?

⁶Pour out Your wrath on the nations that do not know You, And on the kingdoms that do not call on Your name.

⁷For they have devoured Jacob, And laid waste his dwelling place.

⁸Oh, do not remember former iniquities against us! Let Your tender mercies come speedily to meet us, For we have been brought very low.

⁹Help us, O Elohey (God of) our salvation, For the glory of Your name; And deliver us, and provide atonement for our sins, For Your name's sake!

¹⁰Why should the nations say, "Where *is* Eloheyhem (their God)?" Let there be known among the nations in our sight The avenging of the blood of Your servants *which has been* shed.

¹¹Let the groaning of the prisoner come before You; According to the greatness of Your power Preserve those who are appointed to die;

¹²And return to our neighbors sevenfold into their bosom Their reproach with which they have reproached You, O Adonay (Lord).

¹³So we, Your people and sheep of Your pasture, Will give You thanks forever; We will show forth Your praise to all generations.

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Facts Revealed:

- ☆ ·O Elohiym (God), the nations have come into Your inheritance; Your holy temple they have defiled; They have laid Jerusalem in heaps.
The dead bodies of Your servants They have given *as* food for the birds of the heavens, The flesh of Your saints to the beasts of the earth.
Their blood they have shed like water all around Jerusalem, And *there was* no one to bury *them*.

We have become a reproach to our neighbors, A scorn and derision to those who are around us. [Psalm 79:1-4]

- ◇ Asaph complained that the enemies have oppressed and slaughtered Jerusalem & its people.
- ◇ They bear the reproach and scorn of the nations all around them.
- ☆ How long, Yahweh (LORD)? Will You be angry forever? Will Your jealousy burn like fire?
Pour out Your wrath on the nations that do not know You, And on the kingdoms that do not call on Your name.
For they have devoured Jacob, And laid waste his dwelling place.
Oh, do not remember former iniquities against us! Let Your tender mercies come speedily to meet us, For we have been brought very low. [Psalm 79:5-8]
- ◇ Asaph asked “How long” will Yahweh continue the punishment for their sins.
- ◇ Asaph asked Yahweh to pour out His wrath on those who do not know Him nor call upon His Name.
- ◇ Asaph asked Yahweh to forget their former iniquities, and help them by His tender mercies.
- ☆ Help us, O Elohey (God of) our salvation, For the glory of Your name;
And deliver us, and provide atonement for our sins, For Your name's sake!
Why should the nations say, “Where *is* Eloheyhem (their God)?” Let there be known among the nations in our sight The avenging of the blood of Your servants *which has been* shed.
Let the groaning of the prisoner come before You; According to the greatness of Your power Preserve those who are appointed to die;
And return to our neighbors sevenfold into their bosom Their reproach with which they have reproached You, O Adonay (Lord).

So we, Your people and sheep of Your pasture, Will give You thanks forever;
We will show forth Your praise to all generations. [Psalm 79:9-13]

- ◇ Asaph prayed that Elohey would act for the glory of His Name.
- ◇ Asaph acknowledged that only Elohey can provide atonement for sins.
- ◇ By saving His people the Lord gains fame among the nations who witness it.
- ◇ There is a number appointed to die.
- ◇ Asaph asked Adonay to bring sevenfold vengeance against the enemies.
- ◇ Asaph promised Adonay’s people would gratefully give thanks forever and proclaim His praises to all generations.