

Psalm 94

O Lord, avenging God, avenging God, appear! Judge of the earth arise; give the proud what they deserve! How long, O Lord, shall the wicked, how long shall the wicked triumph? They bluster with arrogant speech; the evil-doers boast to each other. They crush your people, Lord, they afflict the ones you have chosen. They kill the widow and the stranger and murder the fatherless child. And they say: "The Lord does not see; the God of Jacob pays no heed." Mark this, most senseless of people; fools, when will you understand? Can he who made the ear, not hear? Can he who formed the eye, not see? Will he who trains nations, not punish? Will he who teaches men, not have knowledge? The Lord knows the thoughts of men. He knows they are no more than a breath. Happy the man whom you teach, O Lord, whom you train by means of your law: to him you give peace in evil days while the pit is being dug for the wicked. The Lord will not abandon his people nor forsake those who are his own: for judgement shall again be just and all true hearts shall uphold it. Who will stand up for me against the wicked? Who will defend me from those who do evil? If the Lord were not to help me, I would soon go down into the silence. When I think: "I have lost my foothold:" your mercy, Lord, holds me up. When cares increase in my heart your consolation calms my soul. Can judges who do evil be your friends? They do injustice under cover of law; they attack the life of the just and condemn innocent blood. As for me, the Lord will be my stronghold; my God will be the rock where I take refuge. He will repay them for their wickedness; destroy them for their evil deeds. The Lord, our God, will destroy them.