
The Righteous Will Be Glad in the LORD

Psalm 64 (pages 418 in the black Bibles)

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Main point: We learn from Psalm 64 how the righteous are to handle the slander and verbal attacks brought on by the wicked as they try to hide in the shadows.

As with many of the psalms, we are reminded that the prayer of faith in God and His word should be the first response of God's people.

David's Requests & Complaint to God (vv. 1-2)

Hear my voice in my complaint;

Preserve my life from dread of the enemy.

Hide me from the secret counsel of evildoers,

from the tumult of those who do iniquity,

The Character of David's Adversaries (v. 2)

Evildoers

Those who do iniquity

Their Weapons (v. 3)

Who have sharpened their tongue like a sword.

They aimed bitter speech as their arrow,

James 3:3-12

Their Methods (v. 4)

4To shoot from concealment at the blameless;

Suddenly they shoot at him, and do not fear.

Their Plans (v. 5)

5They hold fast to themselves an evil purpose;

They talk of laying snares secretly;

They say, "Who can see them?"

Their Pride (v. 6)

6They devise injustices, *saying*,

"We are ready with a well-conceived plot";

For the inward thought and the heart of a man are deep.

Their Miscalculation (vv. 7-8)

7**But God** will shoot at them with an arrow;

Suddenly they will be wounded.

1 Thessalonians 5:1-3

2 Thessalonians 1:3-12

8So they will make him stumble;

Their own tongue is against them;

Proverbs 12:13

An evil man is ensnared by the transgression of his lips, but the righteous will escape from trouble.

All who see them will shake the head.

Illustrations of God turning the tables on the wicked:

Haman (Esther 5:9-14; 7:10)

Daniel's adversaries (Daniel 6:24)

The Effect of God's Intervention (vv. 9-10)

9Then all men will fear,

And they will declare the work of God,
And will consider what He has done.

Daniel 6:25-27

10The righteous man will be glad in the LORD

(Psalm 32:11)

and will take refuge in Him;

And all the upright in heart will glory/exult.

(Lit. "to shine"; Ps. 63:5, "offers praises" & 11 "'will glory")

David's dread of the enemy is changed to being "glad in the LORD" and praising Him.

Application:

If someone is slandering you as a believer your first response should be to pray. Take your complaint to the Lord. Remember who He is and what He has promised in His word.

Do not be surprised if the world hates you. (John 15:18-21; 1 John 3:13)

Matthew 5:10-12

"If God is for us, who is against us?" Romans 8:31ff

As believers we should make sure we are not participating in slander or gossip, especially against another believer.