### Psalms

## Chapter 55

To the [music] director:  
  
One of the hymns of the contemplations of Asaph.  
  
  
  
  
1Give ear, O God, to my prayer…  
 Don’t overlook the things that I beg…  
 2Please pay attention and listen!  
  
I sat alone and was worried;  
 For, by my enemy’s voice,  
 I became very disturbed,  
 3As well as by the oppression of sinners.  
 For in lawless ways, they’ve all turned against me,  
 And in anger, they’ve shown me their rage.  
  
4So my heart was pounding within me,  
 And fear of death overcame me…  
 5I was afraid, shaking, and covered by darkness,  
 6So I begged:  
  
 ‘Please give me the wings of a dove,  
 That I may spread them and go find some rest!’  
  
7{Look!} I was driven far away into exile,  
 And I was forced to live in the desert,  
 8Where I waited for someone to save me  
 From my own fears and the storms.  
  
9O Jehovah,  
  
Please sink them…  
 Make them speak different tongues!  
 For I’ve seen how lawless they are,  
 And I hear of their wars in the cities.  
  
10Lawless ways and misery dwell in their midst…  
 Day and night, they encircle our walls,  
 11Bringing injustice to our city squares,  
 By treacherously charging interest for loans.  
  
12Had I been slandered by my enemies,  
 I’d have been happy to endure it.  
 And if someone who hates me had threatened,  
 I’d have just hidden from him.  
  
13But it’s you, O man, someone like me…  
 A leader of mine and a Seer!  
 14It was you who once sweetened my food,  
 And we lived in the same house together!  
  
15But may death now come to them all,  
 And alive, may they fall into their graves.  
 For, wickedness travels among them,  
 And in their midst, it is living.  
  
16Then I cried out to God, and He heard me.  
 17So at morning, noon, and during the night,  
 I’ll beg Him for the things that I need,  
 And He will listen to all my requests.  
  
18Because I was peaceful, He will ransom my soul…  
 He will save me from those who were once on my side,  
 But who’ve now come to attack me.  
  
19Yes, our God, who exists throughout the ages,  
 Will listen and then make them humble…  
 He won’t negotiate with them,  
 Because they’ve not learned how to fear Him.  
  
20He will stretch out His hand and repay  
 All those who’ve profaned His Sacred Agreement.  
 21With the rage of His face, He will cut them to shreds,  
 And then He will snatch out their hearts.  
 For although His words may sound as soft as olive oil,  
 He can also shoot them like arrows.  
  
22So upon Jehovah, throw your concerns,  
 Then He will nourish and watch over you.  
 For He won’t allow ages to pass,  
 As the righteous are being abused.  
  
23Yes You, O God, will soon lead them  
 (Those men of blood and deception)  
 Into the well of corruption.  
 There’s no way that they’ll live half of their days;  
 And Jehovah, I’m trusting in You.