

PSALM

74 Why, O my God, are we cast off?

D G D (Em D) A⁷ D A

1 Why, O my God, are we cast off for - ev - er?
 2 Re - mem - ber where you dwelt up - on Mount Zi - on,
 3 Your en - e - mies have roared in your as - sem - bly;
 4 They smashed to piec - es all the fret - ted wood - work -

Am Em B⁷ Em A⁷ D

Why rage a - gainst the sheep with - in your fold?
 and turn your steps to - ward these ru - ined walls -
 their stan - dards fly vic - to - rious in the breeze.
 with axe and hatch - et ev - ery pan - elled frame.

D Bm A Bm Em B⁷ Em

Do not for - get the peo - ple whom you pur - chased,
 all this de - struc - tion which the foe in mal - ice
 Their fu - ry was like wood - men wield - ing ax - es
 They burned your ho - ly sanc - tu' - ry to ash - es,

Am Em B⁷ Em A⁷ D

the her - i - tage which you re - deemed of old.
 has per - pe - trat - ed on your sa - cred halls.
 to cut through un - der - growth be - tween the trees.
 and made un - clean the place where dwells your Name.

Why, O my God, are we cast off?

- 5 Their thought was, “We will utterly destroy them!”
They burned each place of worship in the land.
We see no miracles; there are no prophets,
and no one knows when all these things will end.
- 6 How long, O God, will enemies revile you?
Forever will your foes blaspheme and scoff?
Why do you keep your right hand hidden from us?
Stretch it against your foes and cut them off!
- 7 But from of old, O God, you are my sovereign;
upon the earth you win the victory.
You split apart the ocean by your power;
you broke the monsters’ heads within the sea.
- 8 The heads of great Leviathan were shattered;
you gave him to the desert beasts to eat.
You were the one who opened streams and fountains;
you dried the rivers in the summer’s heat.
- 9 The day is yours; yours also is the night-time;
the sun and moon were put in place by you.
You set the limits of the earth by wisdom;
you made the summer and the winter too.
- 10 Remember how the enemy reviles you,
how foolish people never cease to mock.
Leave not your loved one for the beasts to savage;
do not abandon your afflicted flock.
- 11 Regard, O LORD, your covenant with your people,
for haunts of violence fill the land with shame.
Let not defeat bring scorn on those downtrodden;
may yet the poor and needy praise your name.
- 12 Rise up, O God, defend your cause in judgment;
remember how fools mock you all the day.
Do not ignore the clamour of your enemies;
their hostile roaring never goes away.