

PSALM

58 You rulers, do you know

1 You rul - ers, do you know what jus - tice is?
 2 E - ven from birth the wick - ed go a - stray,
 3 Their poi - son's like the ven - om of a snake;

A - mong man - kind do you judge up - right - ly?
 and from the womb un - truth - ful - ly they speak;
 they're like a co - bra that has closed its ear -

No, you de - vise in - jus - tice in your hearts,
 their way - ward thoughts well up with - in their hearts,
 how - ev - er great the charm - er's skill may be,

and on the earth you mete out cru - el - ty.
 and hav - oc with their ly - ing words they wreak.
 it pays no heed be - cause it does not hear.

You rulers, do you know

- 4 Destroy, O God, the teeth within their mouths;
 LORD, smite the lion's jaw a mighty blow.
 Make them disperse as water flows away,
 and blunt their arrows when they draw the bow.

- 5 May they be like the snail that melts away,
 or like a stillborn child that sees no sun.
 Before a pot can boil on burning thorns,
 so swiftly shall the wicked be undone.

- 6 The just will tread the blood of wicked men;
 when they're avenged, the righteous will be glad.
 Then all will say, "The just have their reward;
 surely the judge of all the earth is God."