

Bible Text New International Version	What does the psalm reveal about God and how we are to approach, address, and respond to God?
<p>Psalm 82 <i>A psalm of Asaph.</i></p> <p>¹ God presides in the great assembly; he renders judgment among the “gods”:</p> <p>² “How long will you^[a] defend the unjust and show partiality to the wicked?^[b]</p> <p>³ Defend the weak and the fatherless; uphold the cause of the poor and the oppressed.</p> <p>⁴ Rescue the weak and the needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked.</p> <p>⁵ “The ‘gods’ know nothing, they understand nothing. They walk about in darkness; all the foundations of the earth are shaken.</p> <p>⁶ “I said, ‘You are “gods”; you are all sons of the Most High.’</p> <p>⁷ But you will die like mere mortals; you will fall like every other ruler.”</p> <p>⁸ Rise up, O God, judge the earth, for all the nations are your inheritance.</p> <p>a. The Hebrew is plural. b. The Hebrew has <i>Selah</i> (a word of uncertain meaning) here.</p>	

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<p>Psalm 94</p> <p>¹ The LORD is a God who avenges. O God who avenges, shine forth.</p> <p>² Rise up, Judge of the earth; pay back to the proud what they deserve.</p> <p>³ How long, LORD, will the wicked, how long will the wicked be jubilant?</p> <p>⁴ They pour out arrogant words; all the evildoers are full of boasting.</p> <p>⁵ They crush your people, LORD; they oppress your inheritance.</p> <p>⁶ They slay the widow and the foreigner; they murder the fatherless.</p> <p>⁷ They say, "The LORD does not see; the God of Jacob takes no notice."</p> <p>⁸ Take notice, you senseless ones among the people; you fools, when will you become wise?</p> <p>⁹ Does he who fashioned the ear not hear? Does he who formed the eye not see?</p> <p>¹⁰ Does he who disciplines nations not punish? Does he who teaches mankind lack knowledge?</p> <p>¹¹ The LORD knows all human plans; he knows that they are futile.</p> <p>¹² Blessed is the one you discipline, LORD, the one you teach from your law;</p> <p>¹³ you grant them relief from days of trouble, till a pit is dug for the wicked.</p> <p>¹⁴ For the LORD will not reject his people; he will never forsake his inheritance.</p> <p>¹⁵ Judgment will again be founded on righteousness, and all the upright in heart will follow it. <i>(continued)</i></p>	

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<p>Psalm 94 (<i>continued</i>)</p> <p>¹⁶ Who will rise up for me against the wicked? Who will take a stand for me against evildoers?</p> <p>¹⁷ Unless the LORD had given me help, I would soon have dwelt in the silence of death.</p> <p>¹⁸ When I said, "My foot is slipping," your unfailing love, LORD, supported me.</p> <p>¹⁹ When anxiety was great within me, your consolation brought me joy.</p> <p>²⁰ Can a corrupt throne be allied with you— a throne that brings on misery by its decrees?</p> <p>²¹ The wicked band together against the righteous and condemn the innocent to death.</p> <p>²² But the LORD has become my fortress, and my God the rock in whom I take refuge.</p> <p>²³ He will repay them for their sins and destroy them for their wickedness; the LORD our God will destroy them.</p>	

Reflections

Examples of injustice are all around: someone wrongfully accused and condemned, a child abused, a country illegally invaded, etc. God is the righteous judge who will avenge in His time, but we are the hands and feet of Christ who are called to help the helpless. What is something you are being called to do this week to help someone in an unjust situation?

Think of an instance when you were convicted of a sin pattern and received spiritual training. How did this experience mold and shape your walk with Christ?

