

“The Wickedness of the Wicked & Prayer”

Psalm 10

I. It is a wonder, why does God allow them to exist, to continue?

Why do You stand afar off, O LORD? Why do You hide in times of trouble? ² The wicked in his pride persecutes the poor; Let them be caught in the plots which they have devised. ³For the wicked boasts of his heart's desire; He blesses the greedy and renounces the LORD. ⁴The wicked in his proud countenance does not seek God; God is in none of his thoughts. Psalm 10:1–4 (NKJV)

1. They are proud -
2. They persecute the poor, they think riches make them superior, the poor person inferior, so persecution they count, fun, okay, enjoyable.
3. We can rightly pray that they would be caught in their own schemes -
4. Boasts of their hearts desire –

A. About the heart and its desires, remember, they are not good -

⁹“The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; Who can know it? Jeremiah 17:9 (NKJV)

¹⁹ For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies. Matthew 15:19 (NKJV)

B. Men have such desires, Jesus said we all do, but wicked men boast of such things ↑
Godly people are ASHAMED of such things!

5. The wicked man blesses the greedy, but renounces the LORD
6. He does not seek God, and NEVER thinks of God, they fit in Solomon's fool category –

⁷The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, But fools despise wisdom and instruction. Proverbs 1:7 (NKJV)

A. Note it is in his “proud countenance” he “does not seek God;” meaning his godless pride SHOWS in his facial expressions

B. He is the type of person who would use the phrase, God is a crutch, and he thinks he has no need of Him!

He would despise the song, “I need Thee every hour” because he thinks he does not need even one second of God and His rules!

His song is the one made famous by Frank Sinatra – “My Way”

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II. He is earthy minded so he cannot see God's judgments –

⁵ His ways are always prospering; Your judgments are far above, out of his sight; As for all his enemies, he sneers at them. ⁶ He has said in his heart, “I shall not be moved; I shall never be in adversity.” ⁷ His mouth is full of cursing and deceit and oppression; Under his tongue is trouble and iniquity. Psalm 10:5–7 (NKJV)

1. God's judgments: both ill providences now, and Hell's fire later he does not see.
2. He has been stronger than his enemies, like Goliath, at least pre-David!
3. His BIG MOUTH says it all - :7

III. He does his dastardly deeds in hiding, lurking, secret places, against the most vulnerable –

⁸He sits in the lurking places of the villages; In the secret places he murders the innocent; His eyes are secretly fixed on the helpless. ⁹ He lies in wait secretly, as a lion in his den; He lies in wait to catch the poor; He catches the poor when he draws him into his net.

¹⁰ So he crouches, he lies low, That the helpless may fall by his strength. ¹¹ He has said in his heart, "God has forgotten; He hides His face; He will never see." Psalm 10:8–11 (NKJV)

1. Other than Jesus, who is more innocent than an unborn baby? What place is more SECRET or DARK than an abortion clinic? As a child I used to admire the TV show 60 Minutes, but as I matured, I realized they would never enter an abortion clinic.
2. The abortion industry preys on poor women who feel they have few if any choices!
3. They think God does not see.

IV. The Psalmist Prayer Against Wickedness & Wicked People –

1. Arise, meaning make Yourself known, don't forget... –

¹² Arise, O LORD! O God, lift up Your hand! Do not forget the humble. Psalm 10:12 (NKJV)

A. This is important because ...

¹³ Why do the wicked renounce God? He has said in his heart, "You will not require *an account*." Psalm 10:13 (NKJV)

B. The poor, weak, helpless, godly person looks to God

¹⁴ But You have seen, for You observe trouble and grief, To repay *it* by Your hand. The helpless commits himself to You; You are the helper of the fatherless. Psalm 10:14 (NKJV)

2. But more than an appearance is PRAYED for, also action:

¹⁵ Break the arm of the wicked and the evil *man*; Seek out his wickedness *until* You find none.

¹⁶ The LORD *is* King forever and ever; The nations have perished out of His land. ¹⁷ LORD, You have heard the desire of the humble; You will prepare their heart; You will cause Your ear to hear,

¹⁸ To do justice to the fatherless and the oppressed, That the man of the earth may oppress no more. Psalm 10:15–18 (NKJV)

- A. Arm breaking, the arm is the symbol of STRENGTH: money, weapons, superior numbers...
- B. Seek out his wickedness until you find NONE ... not one grain of wicked sand shall survive in God's sweet land! Heaven is a land of righteousness!
- C. God will hear prayers, prepare hearts, and do justice ...
- D. That the man of earth (not Heaven) will oppress no more!

Arnold A. Brevick