

# Psalms 10

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## Psalms 10

YouTube Prayer Link

O God! Where are you

Psalm 10

The author is David

The fact that God seems to be "hidden" when we need it most is not just a way for us to feel, but also a lesson of faith that has been shared by spiritual people throughout the ages. God will not "stand far off" and leave His children behind, but He will "hide Himself" for a while. Many saints, in the midst of afflictions, are bored, troubled, and even desperate, and ask, "O God! Where are you?" "Why don't you ignore my affliction?" "Why don't you intervene in my suffering?" "Why did you hide it when it matters most, but didn't intervene to save you?" Job, Elijah, Jeremiah, Habakkuk..... and so on have expressed their feelings to God sincerely. Although David repeatedly asked, "Why... Why?" but he didn't stop praying. Through prayer, we see a change in David's state of mind, as he prayed from a heart full of doubts until he became convinced that God was King, convinced that God would hear prayer and act to care for those who were "humble" and "helpless." What a wonderful change! When we feel distressed, lonely, and depressed, pray honestly to God until we convert our doubts, disappointments, confusions, and even complaints about Him into praise.

God is not far away, but near. In Psalm 10:14, David said, "You have seen it because of wickedness and poison, that you may bring recompense with your hands."

When David awoke from prayer, he not only saw God watching the wickedness of the wicked, but God was also listening to the prayers of the humble. In Psalm 10:17, David said, "You know, O Lord, the desires of the humble; Thou shalt prepare their hearts, and thou shalt incline thy ear to their supplication.

The psalmist asks God: How long will You stand far away when you see us being chased by the wicked and know our pain? Actually, it's not that God is absent, it's that we can't see God. What is happening now will change, it is not the same as the truth, and we are often blinded by the facts. What God has done beyond the vision and plan of the wicked is the truth. No matter what happens, our steps and hearts must know that there is God, that the facts will pass, that the truth will never waver, and that God will intervene.

This psalm begins with a question of why God stands by and then describes the wicked who dare to continue to do evil because they think God is just standing by and watching. Finally, after some reflection, he realized that God had heard the desires of the lowly and would avenge them.

In Psalm 10, the poet David experiences despair. In the midst of his troubles, David didn't seem to feel God's help. David began praying when he asked God, "O Lord, why are you standing at a distance?" Why hide in times of trouble? ; What really pained David was not his affliction, but that he did not feel God's help in the midst of his affliction. Once, God used his power to defeat the giant Goliath and successfully led them to victory. However, this time, the miracle did not repeat itself. Faced with the pursuit of the wicked, David seemed to have lost God's help, and he could only flee and keep running.

When we are "chased in a hurry," just thinking about the fact that Jehovah will be King forever and ever, we will suddenly understand what is happening to us, and we will no longer ask "why" or "why."

Yet Jesus willingly endures the earth's "abandonment and contempt" for a long time because God wants to bring us to repentance with "abundant kindness, forbearance, and patience" (Romans 2:4) and "saved us from the power of darkness and moved us into the kingdom of His Son."

The wicked forsake God and despise Him; The wicked who are greedy for money have pride on their faces, and say, "The LORD will not hold him accountable; All he thinks there is no God. Because the wicked do everything well, do what they want, enjoy comfort and stability, and speak wildly, they not only oppress the righteous, but also insult God. (Distressed): Appears three times in the first nine verses. David said, "The wicked chase the poor in their arrogance, and the situation is that the wicked are in a hurry, and David runs in such a hurry that he has hardly a respite." The image of the wicked is "boasting," "greedy for money," "turning his back on God," "despising God," "proud," "arrogant," "unstoppable," "swearing," "deceit," "oppression," "poison," "wicked," "deceitful," "murder," "murder," and "murder." They have no God in their hearts.

The so-called atheists in the world are not unaware of the existence of God in their hearts. But in fact, God has "seen" and has been watching, and there is nothing that God does not record in the "book" of man's words and deeds, including those things that have been erased from his memory (Revelation 20:12), and will "repay every man according to his deeds" in the future. Foolish one, "Do you think you will escape the judgment of God? Or do you despise the riches of His kindness, forbearance, and patience, not knowing that His kindness leads you to repentance"?

God will not stand idly by, for He will inevitably hinder the proud and give grace to the humble.

David's doubts can easily be misconstrued as dissatisfaction or resistance to God. In fact, the psalmist is not dissatisfied at all, but only faces the reality of the arrogance and prosperity of the wicked, and confides in God his deep hatred and full of sorrow. It is not easy for people to understand this reality, and they may even doubt God's justice. But the tyranny and power of the wicked are very short-lived, and we should be patient and careful not to let our souls be taken captive by the pain of the moment, and to exercise our faith and to understand more clearly the hidden will of God.

Let's pray together.

Dear Lord, you watch over those who trust in you! Though the arrogant do evil in their own power, their end is already predestined, that is, destruction. Righteous Lord, you are not watching from afar, and you are not hiding. You have your timetable, and you wait patiently for a while because of your compassion. You want all to be saved, not to perish. Lord, comfort your people, hear the cry of your people, and let us wait in peace, do righteousness, have mercy, and walk with you in humility. Lord, thank God for the only begotten Son, Jesus, who shed His blood and died for us on the Cross, taking away our sins and saving us. Pray that the Lord will help us to fear you and live in your light every day. Let us also be a light in this world, illuminating the people around us and bringing more people to repentance and turn to you.

In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

Psalm 10

Psalm 10[a]

1 Why, Lord, do you stand far off?

Why do you hide yourself in times of trouble?

2 In his arrogance the wicked man hunts down the weak,  
who are caught in the schemes he devises.

3 He boasts about the cravings of his heart;

he blesses the greedy and reviles the Lord.

4 In his pride the wicked man does not seek him;

in all his thoughts there is no room for God.

5 His ways are always prosperous;

your laws are rejected by[b] him;

he sneers at all his enemies.

6 He says to himself, "Nothing will ever shake me."

He swears, "No one will ever do me harm."

7 His mouth is full of lies and threats;

trouble and evil are under his tongue.

8 He lies in wait near the villages;

from ambush he murders the innocent.

His eyes watch in secret for his victims;

9 like a lion in cover he lies in wait.

He lies in wait to catch the helpless;

he catches the helpless and drags them off in his net.

10 His victims are crushed, they collapse;

they fall under his strength.

11 He says to himself, "God will never notice;

he covers his face and never sees."

12 Arise, Lord! Lift up your hand, O God.

Do not forget the helpless.

13 Why does the wicked man revile God?

Why does he say to himself,

"He won't call me to account"?

14 But you, God, see the trouble of the afflicted;

you consider their grief and take it in hand.

The victims commit themselves to you;

you are the helper of the fatherless.

15 Break the arm of the wicked man;

call the evildoer to account for his wickedness

that would not otherwise be found out.

16 The Lord is King for ever and ever;

the nations will perish from his land.

17 You, Lord, hear the desire of the afflicted;

you encourage them, and you listen to their cry,

18 defending the fatherless and the oppressed,

so that mere earthly mortals

will never again strike terror.

Psalm 10: Full Description and Key Verses

Overview:

Psalm 10 is a powerful expression of lamentation and faith, dealing with the problem of evil and injustice in the world. The psalmist struggles with the apparent triumph of wickedness and the suffering of the vulnerable but ultimately expresses trust in God's justice and sovereignty. The psalm can be divided into three sections: a description of the wicked and their actions, a cry for God's intervention, and a declaration of faith in God's ultimate justice.

Structure:

The Cry of Lament (Verse 1): The psalm begins with a cry of distress and confusion as the psalmist wonders why God seems distant and unresponsive in the face of suffering.

Description of the Wicked (Verses 2-11): The psalmist details the wicked person's arrogance, cruelty, and seeming impunity. These verses highlight the wicked person's pride, deceit, and violence against the poor and innocent.

A Prayer for God's Justice (Verses 12-15): The psalmist calls on God to rise and take action, to punish the wicked, and to defend the oppressed.

Declaration of God's Justice and Sovereignty (Verses 16-18): The psalm concludes with a confident declaration of faith that God is the eternal king who will bring justice, protect the oppressed, and judge the wicked.

#### Section-by-Section Breakdown:

##### 1. The Cry of Lament (Verse 1)

Verse 1:

"Why, Lord, do you stand far off? Why do you hide yourself in times of trouble?"

This opening verse expresses the psalmist's feelings of abandonment and confusion. It reflects a common experience of believers, who may feel that God is distant during times of crisis or injustice.

##### 2. Description of the Wicked (Verses 2-11)

The psalmist paints a detailed picture of the wicked and their behavior, emphasizing their arrogance, cruelty, and disregard for God.

Verse 2:

"In his arrogance the wicked man hunts down the weak, who are caught in the schemes he devises."

This verse emphasizes the predatory nature of the wicked person. The wicked prey on the weak, showing no compassion or moral restraint.

Verse 3:

"He boasts about the cravings of his heart; he blesses the greedy and reviles the Lord."

The wicked person is described as boastful and greedy. He praises those who share his selfish desires and shows disdain for God, reflecting his pride and spiritual blindness.

Verse 4:

"In his pride the wicked man does not seek him; in all his thoughts there is no room for God."

The psalmist highlights the spiritual condition of the wicked: they are so consumed by pride that they have no place for God in their lives.

Verse 6:

"He says to himself, 'Nothing will ever shake me.' He swears, 'No one will ever do me harm.'"

The wicked are confident that they will never face consequences, either from God or from anyone else. This false sense of security shows their ignorance of divine justice.

Verse 7:

"His mouth is full of lies and threats; trouble and evil are under his tongue."

The wicked person uses words as weapons, spreading lies, threats, and harm through deceit.

Verses 8-9:

"He lies in wait near the villages; from ambush he murders the innocent. His eyes watch in secret for his victims; like a lion in cover he lies in wait. He lies in wait to catch the helpless; he catches the helpless and drags them off in his net."

These verses describe the wicked person as predatory, using violence and stealth to harm the innocent and the vulnerable, much like a lion stalking its prey.

Verse 11:

"He says to himself, 'God will never notice; he covers his face and never sees.'"

The wicked person assumes that God is either indifferent or unaware of their actions, revealing their mistaken belief that they can escape divine justice.

### 3. A Prayer for God's Justice (Verses 12-15)

In this section, the psalmist calls on God to rise and take action against the wicked, expressing a deep desire for divine intervention.

Verse 12:

"Arise, Lord! Lift up your hand, O God. Do not forget the helpless."

The psalmist pleads with God to act on behalf of the oppressed and to demonstrate His power and care.

Verse 13:

"Why does the wicked man revile God? Why does he say to himself, 'He won't call me to account'?"

This verse questions why the wicked are allowed to blaspheme and mock God without immediate punishment. It reflects the psalmist's frustration with the delay of justice.



Verse 14:

"But you, God, see the trouble of the afflicted; you consider their grief and take it in hand. The victims commit themselves to you; you are the helper of the fatherless."

Despite the wicked person's actions, the psalmist affirms that God is not indifferent. God sees the suffering of the oppressed and cares for them. This verse expresses a deep trust in God's compassion.

Verse 15:

"Break the arm of the wicked man; call the evildoer to account for his wickedness that would not otherwise be found out."

The psalmist asks God to destroy the power ("arm") of the wicked and hold them accountable for their hidden crimes.

#### 4. Declaration of God's Justice and Sovereignty (Verses 16-18)

The psalm concludes with a declaration of faith in God's reign and justice, showing confidence that He will vindicate the oppressed.

Verse 16:

"The Lord is King for ever and ever; the nations will perish from his land."

This verse proclaims God's eternal kingship, affirming that all earthly powers and wicked nations will ultimately be judged by Him.

Verse 17:

"You, Lord, hear the desire of the afflicted; you encourage them, and you listen to their cry."

The psalmist expresses confidence that God hears the prayers of the afflicted and will strengthen and encourage them.

Verse 18:

"Defending the fatherless and the oppressed, so that mere earthly mortals will never again strike terror."

The final verse reaffirms God's commitment to defending the powerless and bringing an end to the reign of terror from the wicked.

Important Verses:

Verse 1: Expresses the psalmist's initial feeling of abandonment by God.

"Why, Lord, do you stand far off? Why do you hide yourself in times of trouble?"

Verse 4: Describes the heart of the wicked as prideful, leaving no room for God.

"In his pride the wicked man does not seek him; in all his thoughts there is no room for God."

Verse 11: Highlights the wicked person's belief that God does not see their actions.

"He says to himself, 'God will never notice; he covers his face and never sees.'"

Verse 12: The psalmist calls on God to act and not forget the helpless.

"Arise, Lord! Lift up your hand, O God. Do not forget the helpless."

Verse 14: Shows the psalmist's trust in God's awareness of the suffering.

"But you, God, see the trouble of the afflicted; you consider their grief and take it in hand."

Verse 16: Declares the eternal kingship of God.

"The Lord is King for ever and ever; the nations will perish from his land."

Verse 18: Affirms God's protection of the oppressed and judgment of the wicked.

"Defending the fatherless and the oppressed, so that mere earthly mortals will never again strike terror."

Conclusion:

Psalm 10 is a poignant reflection on the problem of evil and suffering. It vividly portrays the arrogance and cruelty of the wicked, while also providing hope and reassurance that God sees, cares, and will ultimately bring justice. It encourages believers to cry out to God in times of distress and to trust in His righteous rule and care for the afflicted.

## Theological Thought and Spiritual Influence of Psalm 10

Psalm 10 provides deep insights into the nature of God, human wickedness, and the relationship between the believer and God in times of injustice and suffering. It captures the tension between the experience of evil in the world and faith in God's ultimate justice. Below are the key theological themes and spiritual influences that arise from this psalm.

### Theological Thought

#### 1. God's Justice and Sovereignty

At the core of Psalm 10 is the conviction that God is a righteous judge who sees the injustices of the world and will ultimately act in judgment. Though the wicked seem to prosper for a time, the psalmist affirms that God is the eternal king who will bring justice to the oppressed.

God's Justice: Psalm 10 reveals that God is not indifferent to evil. Though the psalm begins with the perception that God is distant, the later verses express confidence in God's justice. Verse 14 says, "But you, God, see the trouble of the afflicted; you consider their grief and take it in hand." This shows that God is aware of every wrong and will eventually act to rectify all injustices.

God's Sovereignty: The declaration in verse 16, "The Lord is King forever and ever," emphasizes God's ultimate control over the universe. No matter how powerful or arrogant the wicked may appear, God's sovereignty over all creation and history ensures that their time is limited, and justice will prevail.

## 2. Human Sinfulness and Arrogance

The psalmist vividly describes the arrogance of the wicked, who believe that they can act with impunity because they think God does not see or care about their actions. The wicked, as described in verses 3-11, are characterized by pride, greed, violence, and deceit. Their arrogance blinds them to the reality of God's justice.

Pride and Self-Deception: In verse 4, the psalmist notes, "In his pride the wicked man does not seek Him; in all his thoughts there is no room for God." This theological insight underscores how sin leads to spiritual blindness, where the wicked person no longer acknowledges God's authority or presence in their life. They live as if they are accountable only to themselves, fostering injustice and oppression.

Rejection of Accountability: The wicked assume that God will not judge them, as reflected in verse 11, "He says to himself, 'God will never notice; He covers His face and never sees.'" This false belief in their impunity results in a life of unrestrained evil, where they oppress the weak and live without fear of divine retribution.

## 3. God's Compassion for the Oppressed

One of the key theological elements of Psalm 10 is God's special care for the poor, the helpless, and the oppressed. God is depicted as the defender of the fatherless and those who are marginalized.

God's Heart for the Vulnerable: In verse 14, the psalmist affirms that God takes note of the suffering of the afflicted and becomes their helper. This presents a theological picture of a

compassionate and attentive God, particularly concerned with those who are powerless in the face of oppression. God's justice is intertwined with His mercy, especially for those who cannot defend themselves.

God's Advocacy: Verses 17-18 reinforce God's role as the advocate for the oppressed: "You, Lord, hear the desire of the afflicted... defending the fatherless and the oppressed." This reflects the biblical understanding that God is on the side of the weak and marginalized, actively working to bring about justice and protection for those in need.

#### 4. The Delay of Divine Justice

A recurring theological theme in the Psalms, and especially in Psalm 10, is the question of why God sometimes appears to delay justice. The psalmist struggles with the tension between the ongoing success of the wicked and their apparent escape from consequences, versus faith in God's ultimate judgment.

The Mystery of Divine Timing: The psalmist's cry in verse 1, "Why, Lord, do you stand far off? Why do you hide yourself in times of trouble?" reflects the frustration that believers may feel when God's justice is not immediate. Yet, throughout the psalm, there is a growing confidence that although God may seem silent, He is fully aware and will act in His time.

#### Spiritual Influence

##### 1. Encouragement to Cry Out to God in Times of Injustice

Psalm 10 serves as a model for believers in how to deal with the experience of injustice. The psalmist does not suppress their confusion or frustration but brings these feelings directly to God. The honest cry in verse 1 encourages believers to be transparent in their prayers, expressing both their pain and their desire for God's intervention.

Honest Prayer: The psalm encourages believers to bring their full emotional and spiritual burdens to God, trusting that He will hear them. It reminds believers that God is not offended by questions or cries for help but is open to hearing the deepest concerns of His people.

Confidence in God's Response: Despite the initial feelings of abandonment, the psalmist ultimately expresses confidence that God will act. This teaches believers that even in the darkest moments of injustice, they can trust in God's care and intervention.

## 2. Faith in God's Ultimate Justice

Though the psalmist experiences doubt and frustration, the conclusion of the psalm affirms a deep faith in God's justice. Believers are reminded that God sees all wrongs and will bring about justice in His perfect timing. This encourages spiritual perseverance in the face of evil.

**Strengthening of Faith:** The psalmist's eventual confidence in God's justice (verses 16-18) strengthens the faith of believers by reassuring them that God's kingship is eternal and that no evil will escape His judgment. This deepens trust in God's sovereignty even when immediate circumstances appear bleak.

## 3. Compassion for the Oppressed

Psalm 10 influences the spiritual life of believers by cultivating compassion for the poor, the oppressed, and the fatherless. Believers are called to reflect God's heart for justice by caring for those in need, becoming advocates for the vulnerable as God is.

**Call to Action:** While the psalm emphasizes God's role as defender of the oppressed, it also serves as a spiritual call for believers to embody these divine attributes in their own lives. It invites the faithful to take up the cause of justice, showing kindness, mercy, and advocacy for the marginalized, much like God does.

## 4. Patience in the Face of Evil

The psalm teaches believers the importance of patience and endurance in waiting for God's justice. While the immediate situation may seem overwhelming, the ultimate triumph of God's righteousness is assured.

**Spiritual Patience:** By meditating on Psalm 10, believers can learn to develop spiritual patience, understanding that God's timing may differ from their own. They are encouraged to continue trusting in God's plan and not be discouraged by the apparent success of evil in the short term.

### Conclusion:

Psalm 10 provides rich theological and spiritual lessons. It affirms God's justice and sovereignty, highlights the destructive nature of human pride and wickedness, and emphasizes God's special concern for the vulnerable and oppressed. Spiritually, it encourages believers to cry out to God in times of distress, to trust in His ultimate judgment, and to cultivate patience and compassion. It is a psalm that resonates with those who seek God in the midst of injustice, offering hope and assurance that God will bring about justice in His time.