Calling Down God's Wrath Psalm 94

What is your response to this Psalm? What do these words ignite in you?

- "O Lord, God of vengeance, O God of vengeance, shine forth!" Vs. 1
- "Rise up, O judge of the earth; repay to the proud what they deserve!" vs. 2
- "He (God) will bring back on them (wicked) their iniquity and wipe them out for their wickedness; the Lord our God will wipe them out." – Vs. 23

Finally words we can speak to God that express how many of us feel right now with all that is going on in our world! We can call out God's <u>wrath!</u>

Wipe them out Lord... Republicans/Democrats, Trump/Biden, Rioters/Police, The Woke movement/White Supremacy, BLM, ALM, Anti-LBGTQ+, RFA, etc.

How would you use the words of this Psalm, and other "imprecatory" Psalms, as <u>prayer language</u> offered up to God in your life right now?

Would these words be used rightly, or would they be used to simply try to get God to bring about our own personal agendas? To get God to see things our way & to do what we don't have the power to do ourselves?

Let me share 6 takeaways from this Psalm for how we can use these words in our prayer life - honestly and rightfully speaking these words to God.

• These words give us license to call out to God for justice!

We should not be indifferent to evil. We ought to call sin for what it is!

The ways of the wicked are an abomination to a Holy God!

God is the right one to turn to with our plea for justice to prevail.

These words give us <u>reassurance</u> that God does see/hear/care & He will respond to the evil in this world! – Vs. 3-11

Nothing is going unseen/unheard/unrevealed – God knows it all.

The question is do we trust Him, that He has a plan in all of it?

God is not surprised or caught off guard by what is happening in our world, & that should give us a level of relief knowing that these things are only happening because God is allowing them to happen – for a purpose.

• These words give us an <u>eternal</u> perspective of the destiny of the wicked!

The wicked may prosper now, but their prosperity is temporary!

God promises us in His Word that when Jesus returns everything will be revealed and there will be a reckoning! We all will have to give an account!

It is far better to suffer now unjustly, than to suffer for all eternity in hell!

• These words do NOT give <u>us</u> license to seek out revenge on others!

There is a difference between vengeance and revenge!

There is a difference between God being an avenger and us taking matters into our own hands! *"Vengeance is <u>mine</u> declares the Lord!"*

This doesn't mean we do nothing, but what we do & how we do it matters!

• These words do NOT ensure that what is right will prevail in this life!

Many of us are waiting for God to act, to avenge now, but that may not be His timing. Are we ok with that?

Many have lost their lives doing what is right. Many suffer for taking the right stand. Is it worth it if there is no payoff in this life?

What does having an eternal perspective mean to/for you?

• These words do NOT account for what God has already done in Christ!

God has already responded to the injustices of this world by He Himself being unjustly crucified in our place!

God has already dealt with the evil & wickedness of mankind by taking on flesh Himself and paying the eternal penalty of sin in the flesh!

God has already wiped out the lasting power of sin by <u>defeating</u> the prince of darkness and overthrowing his reign.

This ought to change the way we see evil in this world, the way we respond to it, and the way we go to God in prayer about it!

We can speak to God with the words of Psalm 94, but not without Christ being lifted up and exulted as God's ultimate <u>answer</u> to our prayer!

Calling Down God's Wrath Psalm 94

What is your response to this Psalm? What do these words ignite in you?

- "O Lord, God of vengeance, O God of vengeance, shine forth!" Vs. 1
- "Rise up, O judge of the earth; repay to the proud what they deserve!" vs. 2
- "He (God) will bring back on them (wicked) their iniquity and wipe them out for their wickedness; the Lord our God will wipe them out." Vs. 23

Finally words we can speak to God that express how many of us feel right now with all that is going on in our world! We can call out God's _____

Wipe them out Lord... Republicans/Democrats, Trump/Biden, Rioters/Police, The Woke movement/White Supremacy, BLM, ALM, Anti-LBGTQ+, RFA, etc.

How would you use the words of this Psalm, and other "imprecatory" Psalms, as ______ offered up to God in your life right now?

Would these words be used rightly, or would they be used to simply try to get God to bring about our own personal agendas? To get God to see things our way & to do what we don't have the power to do ourselves?

Let me share 6 takeaways from this Psalm for how we can use these words in our prayer life - honestly and rightfully speaking these words to God.

These words give us license to call out to God for _____!

We should not be indifferent to evil. We ought to call sin for what it is!

The ways of the wicked are an abomination to a _____ God!

God is the right one to turn to with our plea for justice to prevail.

• These words give us ______ that God does see/hear/care & He will respond to the evil in this world! – Vs. 3-11

Nothing is going unseen/unheard/unrevealed – God knows it all.

The question is do we ______ Him, that He has a plan in all of it?

God is not surprised or caught off guard by what is happening in our world, & that should give us a level of relief knowing that these things are only happening because God is allowing them to happen – for a purpose.

• These words give us an _____ perspective of the destiny of the wicked!

The wicked may prosper now, but their prosperity is temporary!

God promises us in His Word that when Jesus returns everything will be revealed and there will be a reckoning! We all will have to give an account!

It is far better to suffer now unjustly, than to suffer for all eternity in hell!

These words do NOT give _____ license to seek out revenge on others!

There is a difference between vengeance and revenge!

There is a difference between God being an avenger and us taking matters into our own hands! *"Vengeance is______ declares the Lord!"*

This doesn't mean we do nothing, but what we do & how we do it matters!

These words do NOT ensure that what is right will prevail in ______

Many of us are waiting for God to act, to avenge now, but that may not be His timing. Are we ok with that?

Many have lost their lives doing what is right. Many suffer for taking the right stand. Is it worth it if there is no ______ in this life?

What does having an eternal perspective mean to/for you?

These words do NOT account for what God has already done ______

God has already responded to the injustices of this world by He Himself being unjustly crucified in our place!

God has already dealt with the evil & wickedness of mankind by taking on flesh Himself and paying the eternal penalty of sin in the flesh!

God has already wiped out the lasting power of sin by ______ the prince of darkness and overthrowing his reign.

This ought to change the way we see evil in this world, the way we respond to it, and the way we go to God in prayer about it!

We can speak to God with the words of Psalm 94, but not without Christ being lifted up and exulted as God's ultimate ______ to our prayer!