

## **Psalm 58:1-2 (NLT)**

Justice - do you rulers know the meaning of the word? Do you judge the people fairly? <sup>2</sup>

No! You plot injustice in your hearts. You spread violence throughout the land.

## **Psalm 58:3-4 (NLT)**

These wicked people are born sinners;  
even from birth they have lied and gone  
their own way. <sup>4</sup> They spit venom like  
deadly snakes...

**Psalm 58:6-7 (NLT)**

**Break off their fangs, O God!**

**Smash the jaws of these lions, O LORD.**

**<sup>7</sup> May they disappear like water into  
thirsty ground. Make their weapons  
useless in their hands.**

## **Psalm 58:10-11 (NLT)**

**<sup>10</sup> The godly will rejoice when they see  
injustice avenged... <sup>11</sup> Then at last  
everyone will say, There truly is a reward  
for those who live for God; surely there is a  
God who judges justly here on earth.**

**The Battle Against  
TYRANTS**

**Psalm 58**

Our ugly emotions, sorrow and pain are not failures, not a sign of God turning away from us. The **Lament psalms** assure us that sorrow can bring us before God's throne, and that **God welcomes even our most terrible thoughts.**

Vroegop

# IMPRECATORY Psalms...

- call for **Divine JUSTICE** rather than human vengeance
- ask for God to **PUNISH** the Wicked
- **CONDEMN** sin as well as the sinner

>This Psalm is part **LAMENT**  
over Israel's horrible condition **SPIRITUALLY**  
because of Saul

>It is also part **IMPRECATION**  
over the **INJUSTICE** that Saul had sown  
all over the nation



Comparing these **wicked rulers** to the  
**venom** of a snake emphasizes  
their **Deadliness**. HCSB

→ **These Tyrants have a HEART Problem**

<sup>2</sup> ...You plot injustice in your **HEARTS**.  
You spread violence throughout  
the land. (NLT)

Jeremiah 17:9 (NIV)

The **HEART** is **deceitful** above **ALL** things  
and **beyond cure**.

Who can understand it?

They could not be Right in their judgements because they were **WRONG** in their hearts.

OUP

Luke 6:45 (NIV)

The good man brings good things out of  
the **GOOD stored up in his heart,**  
and the evil man brings evil things out of  
the **EVIL stored up in his heart.**

For out of the **OVERFLOW** of his  
**HEART** his mouth speaks.

Luke 6:45 (NIV)

The good man brings **good things** out  
of the **GOOD** stored up in  
his **HEART...**

## → Our **WORDS** Matter

<sup>1</sup> Do you rulers indeed **SPEAK** justly?

<sup>3</sup> ...even from birth they have **LIED** and  
gone their own way.

<sup>4</sup> They spit **VENOM** like deadly snakes...

(NLT)

Luke 6:45 (NIV)

...the evil man brings evil things out of the  
**EVIL** stored up in his heart.

For out of the **OVERFLOW** of his  
**HEART** his mouth speaks.



Exodus 18:21 (NLT)

...select from all the people some **CAPABLE,**  
**HONEST** men who  
**FEAR God** and **HATE BRIBES...**

Ephesians 4:29 (NIV)

Do NOT let any **unwholesome** talk come out of your **MOUTHS**, but only what is **helpful** for **building others up** according to their needs, that it may **benefit** those who listen.

**29 Don't use foul or abusive language.**  
Let everything you **SAY** be good and helpful,  
so that your **WORDS** will be an  
encouragement to those who hear them.

(NLT)

**Metaphor** - Word pictures

**Hyperbole** - Exaggeration for Effect

Let the very **weapons** they use  
- **their mouths** - be destroyed  
as one would tear out the  
fangs of a lions.

HOTC

## → Justice WILL Come

Galatians 6:7 (NIV) Do not be deceived:

God cannot be **mocked**.

**A man reaps what he sows.**

<sup>7</sup> Don't be under any illusion:  
**you cannot make a fool of God.**  
**A man's harvest** in life will depend  
entirely on **what he sows**

(JBP)

Galatians 6:9-10 (NIV)

Let us **NOT become weary in doing good**,  
for at the proper time we will **reap a  
harvest** if we do not give up.

<sup>10</sup> Therefore, as we have opportunity,  
**let us do good to all people**, especially to  
those who belong to the family of believers.



Psalm 1:3 (NIV)

He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which **yields its fruit** in season and whose **leaf does not wither**.  
Whatever he does **PROSPERS**.

The faithful remember who their God is:  
**THE Creator** who loves to see  
**HIS creation** functioning properly  
(which is why **He loves JUSTICE**)

ESV

## 2 Peter 3:9-14 (NIV)

<sup>9</sup> The Lord is **NOT SLOW** in keeping His promise, as some understand slowness.

He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

**10 But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything in it will be laid bare.**

11 Since everything will be destroyed in  
this way,  
what kind of people ought you to be?  
You ought to live **HOLY** and  
**GODLY** lives

<sup>12</sup> as you **look forward to the day of God** and speed its coming. That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat.

<sup>13</sup> But in keeping with **His promise** we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness.

<sup>14</sup> So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this, make every effort to be found **spotless, blameless and at peace with him.**