

Psalm 58:1-2 (NLT)

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

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. ⁴ 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.

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

Psalm 58:10-11 (NLT)

**¹⁰ The godly will rejoice when they see
injustice avenged... ¹¹ 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**

² ...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

¹ Do you rulers indeed **SPEAK** justly?

³ ...even from birth they have **LIED** and
gone their own way.

⁴ 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.

⁷ 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.

¹⁰ 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)

⁹ 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

¹² 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.

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

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