

Psalm 50

1 A Psalm of Asaph. The mighty God, even the LORD, hath spoken, and called the earth from the rising of the sun unto the going down thereof. 2 Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God hath shined. 3 Our God shall come, and shall not keep silence: a fire shall devour before him, and it shall be very tempestuous round about him. 4 He shall call to the heavens from above, and to the earth, that he may judge his people. 5 Gather my saints together unto me; those that have made a covenant with me by sacrifice. 6 And the heavens shall declare his righteousness: for God is judge himself. Selah.

7 Hear, O my people, and I will speak; O Israel, and I will testify against thee: I am God, even thy God. 8 I will not reprove thee for thy sacrifices or thy burnt offerings, to have been continually before me. 9 I will take no bullock out of thy house, nor he goats out of thy folds. 10 For every beast of the forest is mine, and the cattle upon a thousand hills. 11 I know all the fowls of the mountains: and the wild beasts of the field are mine. 12 If I were hungry, I would not tell thee: for the world is mine, and the fulness thereof. 13 Will I eat the flesh of bulls, or drink the blood of goats? 14 Offer unto God thanksgiving; and pay thy vows unto the most High: 15 And call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me.

16 But unto the wicked God saith, What hast thou to do to declare my statutes, or that thou shouldst take my covenant in thy mouth? 17 Seeing thou hatest instruction, and castest my words behind thee. 18 When thou sawest a thief, then thou consentedst with him, and hast been partaker with adulterers. 19 Thou givest thy mouth to evil, and thy tongue frameth deceit. 20 Thou sittest and speakest against thy brother; thou slanderest thine own mother's son. 21 These things hast thou done, and I kept silence; thou thoughtest that I was altogether such an one as thyself: but I will reprove thee, and set them in order before thine eyes.

22 Now consider this, ye that forget God, lest I tear you in pieces, and there be none to deliver. 23 Whoso offereth praise glorifieth me: and to him that ordereth his conversation aright will I shew the salvation of God.

Introduction:

1. "A Psalm of Asaph." – Asaph ("the gatherer") was one of the chief musicians appointed to serve by David (1 Chr. 6:39; 15:19). There are 12 Psalms are connected with him (Pss. 50 and 73-83). This is the only Asaphic Psalm in Book 2, the rest are in book 3. Asaph, Heman, and Ethan (Jeduthan) were also "the kings seers" (2 Chr. 35:15).
2. A "Selah" concludes the introduction (v.6).
3. The Introduction concerns two points:
 - A. The announcement of the coming of the righteous God to judge His people (ie. Israel) and all the world.
 - B. The summon for people to stand in trial.
4. A "saint" ("holy") (v.5) is a set-apart individual or nation and it doesn't automatically indicate that the person or nation is saved. (Common misconception about the word "saint"); (1 Cor. 7:14).

Outline:

- A. God judges His people (vv.1-6)
 - B. Warning to the Religious But Lost of Israel (vv.7-15)
 - B.' Warning to the Wicked (vv.16-21)
- A.' God judges His people (vv.22-23)

Observations:

1. Notice the names and titles of God: "The Mighty God"; "LORD"; "God is judge Himself." His person and work inspires fear in people.
2. God is the righteous judge of Israel and of all the rest of the world. (The Judgment of Israel & the Nations; Ezek. 20:33-44; Matt.25:31).
3. God is the Creator-Ruler and is self-sufficient.
4. God rejects sacrifices from a heart of pride and ritual. He honors a thankful heart and humility.
5. God will judge hypocrites. The requirement is faith and many only have a profession of faith but not the possession of faith.
6. (vv.22-23) God graciously invites people to repent and believe in Him from the heart.

Lesson: God is a righteous judge and He will condemn sin.