

Evening Sermon Outline – June 21, 2020
Psalm 59 “Trouble, Praying & Singing!”

Like so many of the other Psalms, this one was written under (or at least inspired by) stress -

To the Chief Musician. Set to “Do Not Destroy.” A Michtam of David When Saul Sent Men, and They Watched the House in Order to Kill Him.

I. A prayer prayed about enemies -

¹ Deliver me from my enemies, O my God; Defend me from those who rise up against me. ² Deliver me from the workers of iniquity, And save me from bloodthirsty men.

Verse 1.—“That rise up against me.” He insists upon the strength and violence of his enemies, with the view of exciting his mind to greater fervour in the duty of prayer. These he describes as rising up against him, in which expression he alludes, not simply to the audacity or fierceness of their assaults, but to the eminent superiority of power which they possessed; and yet he asks that he may be lifted up on high, as it were, above the reach of this over-swelling inundation.—John Calvin.

1. They wanted to kill David -

³ For look, they lie in wait for my life; Psalm 59:3 A

2. They are “they” plural, they gather -

The mighty gather against me, Psalm 59:3 B

3. They do this without just cause -

Not for my transgression nor for my sin, O LORD. Psalm 59:3 C

⁴ They run and prepare themselves through no fault of mine. Psalm 59:4 A

4. David broadens his prayer -

Awake to help me, and behold! ⁵ You therefore, O LORD God of hosts, the God of Israel, Awake to punish all the nations; Do not be merciful to any wicked transgressors. Selah

A. David had to deal with his own injustice from Saul

B. He realizes he is not the only one who has to deal with injustice

C. It is a world-wide phenomenon so he prays beyond his own problems -

D. This was king preparation for David

5. David describes his enemies –

A. They are night creatures - ⁶ At evening they return, Psalm 59:6 A

B. They are like lowly animals - They growl like a dog, Psalm 59:6 B

C. They are energetic travelers with their evil, (round, round, get around, they get a round) And go all around the city. Psalm 59:6 C

D. They are rude -

⁷ Indeed, they belch with their mouth; Psalm 59:7 A

E. They are dangerous, even with their words, because they do NOT acknowledge God -

Swords are in their lips; For they say, “Who hears?” Psalm 59:7 B

II. David’s confidence is in God –

1. God’s laugh is that of one in control -

⁸ But You, O LORD, shall laugh at them; You shall have all the nations in derision. Psalm 59:8

A. This is a lot like what we see in Psalm 2 –

¹ Why do the nations rage, And the people plot a vain thing? ² The kings of the earth set themselves, And the rulers take counsel together, Against the LORD and against His Anointed, saying, “Let us break Their bonds in pieces And cast away Their cords from us.” ⁴ He who sits in the heavens shall laugh; The LORD shall hold them in derision. ⁵ Then He shall speak to them in His wrath, And distress them in His deep displeasure: ⁶ “Yet I have set My King On My holy hill of Zion.” ⁷ “I will declare the decree: The LORD has said to Me, ‘You are My Son, Today I have begotten You. ⁸ Ask of Me, and I will give You The nations for Your inheritance, And the ends of the earth for Your possession. ⁹ You shall break them with a rod of iron; You shall dash them to pieces like a potter’s vessel.’” ¹⁰ Now therefore, be wise, O kings; Be instructed, you judges of the earth. ¹¹ Serve the LORD with fear, And rejoice with trembling. ¹² Kiss the Son, lest He be angry, And you perish in the way, When His wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all those who put their trust in Him. Psalm 2:1–12 (NKJV)

B. *And like Acts 4, both which are about Jesus –*
²⁵ who by the mouth of Your servant David have said: *'Why did the nations rage, And the people plot vain things? ²⁶ The kings of the earth took their stand, And the rulers were gathered together Against the LORD and against His Christ.'* ²⁷ "For truly against Your holy Servant Jesus, whom You anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles and the people of Israel, were gathered together ²⁸ to do whatever Your hand and Your purpose determined before to be done. Acts 4:25–28 (NKJV)

We see God's sovereignty expressed in these verses!

2. *By waiting, David means confident PRAYING -*

⁹ **I will wait for You, O You his Strength; For God is my defense.**
Psalm 59:9

A. *They had treachery, lips like swords*

B. *David had prayer, David had God!*

"And when it seems no chance nor change
From grief can set me free,
Hope finds its strength in helplessness,
And, patient, waits on thee."

C.H. Spurgeon

3. *David was expecting God's mercy -*

¹⁰ **My God of mercy shall come to meet me; God shall let me see my desire on my enemies.** Psalm 59:10

4. *David prays for the scattering, and humbling of his enemies -*

¹¹ **Do not slay them, lest my people forget; Scatter them by Your power, And bring them down, O Lord our shield.** Psalm 59:11

Verse 11.—*"Slay them not:"—*

"Live loathed and long You smiling, smooth, detected parasites," W. Shakspeare.

5. *David prays for God's judgment -*

¹² **For the sin of their mouth and the words of their lips, Let them even be taken in their pride, And for the cursing and lying which they speak.**

¹³ **Consume them in wrath, consume them, That they may not be; And let them know that God rules in Jacob To the ends of the earth.**
Selah Psalm 59:12-13

III. David sings about his enemies, despising them -
¹⁴ **And at evening they return, They growl like a dog, And go all around the city. ¹⁵ They wander up and down for food, And howl if they are not satisfied.** Psalm 59:14-15

You ain't nothin' but a hound dog
Cryin' all the time
Well, you ain't never caught a rabbit
And you ain't no friend of mine
Well they said you was high-classed
Well, that was just a lie
Yeah they said you was high-classed
Well, that was just a lie
Well, you ain't never caught a rabbit
And you ain't no friend of mine

Elvis Presley

David is no longer in awe, or fearful of his enemies, compared to God they are just dissatisfied, howling dogs!

IV. David sings about His God, honoring and glorifying Him -

¹⁶ **But I will sing of Your power; Yes, I will sing aloud of Your mercy in the morning; For You have been my defense And refuge in the day of my trouble. ¹⁷ To You, O my Strength, I will sing praises; For God is my defense, My God of mercy.** Psalm 59:16-17

Verse 17 (first clause).—As on account of Saul's strength my watching (PRAYING) was directed to Thee; so now, on account of Thy strength vouchsafed to me, my singing of praises also shall be directed to Thee alone.—Martin Geier.

"I sing the mighty power of God
That made the mountains rise,
That spread the flowing seas abroad
And built the lofty skies."

Isaac Watts

Arnold Brevick