

Psalm 50 New American Standard Bible

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God, the Judge of the Righteous and the Wicked.

A Psalm of Asaph.

The Mighty One, God, the Lord, has spoken

And summoned the earth, from the rising of the sun to its setting. ² Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty,

God has shone. ³ May our God come and not keep silent; Fire devours before Him, And a storm is violently raging around Him.

⁴ He summons the heavens above, And the earth, to judge His people: ⁵ “Gather My godly ones to Me, Those who have made a covenant with Me by sacrifice.”

⁶ And the heavens declare His righteousness, For God Himself is judge. *Selah* ⁷ “Hear, My people, and I will speak; Israel, I will testify against you;

I am God, your God. ⁸ I do not rebuke you for your sacrifices, And your burnt offerings are continually before Me. ⁹ I will not take a bull from your house,

Nor male goats from your folds. ¹⁰ For every animal of the forest is Mine, The cattle on a thousand hills.

¹¹ I know every bird of the mountains, And everything that moves in the field is Mine. ¹² If I were hungry I would not tell you, For the world is Mine, and everything it contains. ¹³ Shall I eat the flesh of bulls Or drink the blood of male goats? ¹⁴ Offer God a sacrifice of thanksgiving And pay your vows to the Most High;

¹⁵ Call upon Me on the day of trouble; I will rescue you, and you will honor Me.” ¹⁶ But to the wicked God says, “What *right* do you have to tell of My statutes And to take My covenant in your mouth?

¹⁷ For you yourself hate discipline, And you throw My words behind you. ¹⁸ When you see a thief, you become friends with him, And you associate with adulterers.

¹⁹ You let your mouth loose in evil, And your tongue harnesses deceit. ²⁰ You sit and speak against your brother; You slander your own mother’s son.

²¹ These things you have done *and* I kept silent; You thought that I was *just* like you; I will rebuke you and present *the case* before your eyes.

²² “Now consider this, you who forget God, Or I will tear *you* in pieces, and there will be no one to save *you*. ²³ He who offers a sacrifice of thanksgiving honors Me; And to him who sets *his way properly* I will show the salvation of God.”

Who is Asaph?

The **Psalms of Asaph** are the twelve psalms numbered as 50 and 73–83 in the Masoretic Text, and as 49 and 72–82 in the Septuagint. They are located in the Book of Psalms in the Hebrew Bible (which is also called the Old Testament). Scholars have determined that a psalm's attribution to Asaph can mean a variety of things. It could mean that the psalms were a part of a collection from the Asaphites, a name commonly used to identify temple singers.

Another possibility is that the psalms were performed in the style or tradition of the guild bearing Asaph's name.^[1] Asaph is said to either be the author or the transcriber of these psalms. He may not have said these psalms but transcribed the words of David. No specific time period is known to be associated with these Psalms, but the record of destruction noted in Psalm 74 may indicate that these Psalms came from the post-exilic period.

1. Who is the mighty one, God the Lord?
2. What does 'the mighty one' mean?
3. Very large, powerful, important:
4. When God speaks, we all need to pay close attention.
5. How does God speak in these days?
6. 'To summon' means to come to Him because He is about to say something, or, do something and He wants us to be there.
7. Out of Zion, that is the nation of Israel, God the Lord comes to speak.
8. Fire depicts glory but what does tempestuous depict?
9. A raging storm, turbulence of emotion and swirling wind.
10. The Lord is about to judge His people, to evaluate them and to see how they have done.
11. His people are all those who have come to him via the law and through the sacrifices Moses taught.
12. Someone might ask 'is God worthy to judge?'
13. The heavens and all creation say He is all powerful, so yes, God is worthy to judge.
14. From the opening statement God already foresees a problem as He evaluates.
15. His people, they have not done so well!
16. To make a statement 'I am God' is an incredible declaration to make. Jesus also made this declaration, He said, 'I am the way'.
17. Israel's redemption should have come via the sacrifices and offerings that Moses instructed them but, because they abused that method of connecting to God, it no longer had an effect.
18. The sacrifice method was given to keep Israel clean, but they turned it into a reason to do evil and get away with it - Just like some members of the body of the Church of Jesus Christ.
19. God is the keeper, guardian of all creatures and creation.
20. 'All creation belongs to God' do you believe this?
21. 'All that you have', does it belong to you or does it belong to God?

22. How can you know everything belongs to God?
23. Next time someone asks you to help them, maybe by borrowing something you have, see how willing or reluctant you are in helping them.
24. We are only looking after what God has given us to enjoy.
25. If you want to bless God, then give Him exultation praise, be grateful to God for all that He has given you.
26. To pay your vows is to do what you say and give what you promised.
27. 'Call on me' says God 'when you are in trouble and I will rescue you'.
28. Many don't call to be rescued by God because they trust in their own resources to rescue them, but what they don't realise is, it is God who has made those resources available to them.
29. God has a problem with the wicked.
30. The wicked are they who do evil and enjoy doing it, they rejoice over it and the damage that it causes others.
31. The wicked will not escape the punishment, they will undergo great suffering, their rebellion keeps them from repentance.
32. The wicked think that God doesn't respond to every evil done on the earth.
33. He may not respond at the time the wickedness is done, but one day He will respond in judgement to the wicked, all the rebellion that people are in.
34. 'The ones who forget God' this means they know He is God, but they choose to live their lives without Him being with them.
35. Those who have forgotten God will be in trouble unless they repent and remember who they have known