

**The Judgment of Ungodly Rulers**  
**Sanctity of Life Sunday**  
**Psalm 58** (1/22/2023)

An abortion takes the life of a unique person created in the image of God. [Exodus 20:13](#), “You shall not murder.” When Cain the first murderer killed his brother Abel God said “[the voice of your brother's blood cries out to Me from the ground](#)”, [Genesis 4:10](#). Abel’s blood cried out to God for justice. The innocent blood of almost 64 million children cries out to God for justice. Do we not know that America is under God’s hand of judgment? The scourge of abortion is promoted by our leaders. One of the ways that God judged Israel was by taking away faithful rulers and putting cowardly worthless persons in their place. This is an imprecatory Psalm of David. These Psalms contain curses or prayers for punishment. To imprecate means to invoke evil upon someone. This Psalm seems to fit David fleeing from Saul although we cannot be certain. Are the imprecatory Psalms appropriate for our time? The New Testament commands us to pray for our leaders. We are to submit to our rulers but if they are doing evil, we can pray for God to deal with the evil. This is what David is doing in this Psalm. Nothing is more evil in our day than the endorsement and propagation of abortion.

**The accusation against the unjust rulers (1-5)**

David asks these questions using bitter irony. He asks the leaders to justify their silence in the face of wrong. Silence gives consent. So many leaders do what is expedient instead of doing what is right. Their actions were the outworking of the evil in their hearts (2). Scales and weights symbolize the administration of justice. Their judgments are unjust promoting violence, [Ecclesiastes 3:16-17](#).

➤ **David turns from speaking “to” them to speaking “of” them.**

Man’s tendency by nature is not to goodness but to sin (3). David says this of himself in [Psalm 51:5](#). How soon will a little child tell a lie to excuse a sin? These rulers’ original birth sin has gone unchecked into adulthood. They have become altogether corrupt. They are habitual liars. David compares them to a serpent which is also representative of Satan (4-5).

▪ ***Like a snake that can’t be charmed these wicked rulers will not heed the voices of truth.***

They take counsel of their own wisdom. They abandoned the truth of God in His Word. The moral consensus in America is gone. The rejection of God’s revelation and the acceptance of the damnable heresy of Darwinian Evolution is the primary reason for this devaluing of human life. Abortion, infanticide, and euthanasia are the outgrowth of a man centered worldview. [Romans 1:21](#), “[Because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.](#)”

**The condemnation of the unjust rulers (6-9)**

David compares his enemies to the fierceness and violence of lions. [1 Peter 5:8](#), “Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.” We need to recognize that we are engaged in spiritual warfare, [Ephesians 6:12](#). The word “break” means to tear out. David is asking God to take away the means of these wicked men from doing harm. He prays that they would vanish away like water that dissipates (7).

➤ **David takes refuge in the sovereignty of God (8).**

Some men like Judas are so wicked it would have been better for them if they had never been born, [Mark 14:21](#). David the anointed king of Israel was running for his life while ungodly men ruled in his place. Asaph lived during the reign of King David serving as a musician in the Temple. Asaph wrote [Psalm 73](#). He could not understand why God would allow wicked men to prosper. [Psalm 73:17](#), “[Until I went into the sanctuary of God; then I understood their end.](#)” Unless sinful men and women repent of their sin and turn to Jesus for forgiveness they will be eternally damned. This is a difficult verse (9) to interpret. All of the wicked rulers’ actions will ultimately come to nothing. Like a whirlwind blowing away the pot, the meat, the thorns and the fire, all their works are ultimately failure.

**The reward for the righteous (10-11)**

David ends the Psalm by focusing on the blessings in store for the godly remnant.

➤ **The rejoicing of the righteous (10)**

One day we will rejoice to see justice triumph over the wicked. Isaiah saw a vision of the coming of Yahweh when He comes to destroy the wicked and save Israel at the end of the Tribulation at the battle of Armageddon, [Isaiah 63:2-4](#). God is a God of love but also of justice. [1 John 5:3](#), “[For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome.](#)” The godly will rejoice to see their faith in the providence of God be found true.

➤ **The reward of the righteous (11)**

[Spurgeon](#), “All men shall be forced by the sight of the final judgment to see that there is a God and that He is the righteous ruler of the universe. Two things will come out clearly after all—there is a God and there is a reward for the righteous. Time will remove all doubts, solve difficulties and reveal secrets; meanwhile faith’s foreseeing eye discerns truth even now and is glad thereat.”

We should continue to do what we can to save as many innocent lives as possible. We can take heart that ultimately God will judge the ungodly. We need to cry out to God concerning the evil in our culture, [Jude 14-15](#). We need to pray for the unsaved to come to repentance, [Daniel 4:37](#). They need to realize they are standing on the precipice of eternal damnation. God can humble ungodly rulers in any age.

**We need to speak out against abortion with compassion.**