

Bible Studies for Life: January 21

A Cry for Justice • Psalm 10:1-4, 12-18

By Bobby McKay



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All life has value, meaning, and purpose to God. The newborn baby is as loved by the Father as much as the prisoner on death row. Christ died on the cross for each soul both equally and without reservation. A love like that is hard for us to comprehend, but His ways are beyond our understanding. In this lesson, we are reminded of the sanctity of the unborn and how one day, God will set all things in order and justice will be delivered.

The wicked pursue injustice with no fear of God. (1-4)

It is hard to say, but I imagine the most often asked question to God from people is, "Why?" We look around at the evil in the world and the prosperity of the wicked and cannot rationalize the reason these things take place. The Psalmist does not get the answer to the "why" question, but he is given a glimpse into the heart of the wicked. The overwhelming trait of the wicked is arrogance and no respect for life. As I write these words, a man is wanted by law enforcement officials

after allegedly murdering and setting fire to an elderly lady just 20 miles from me. This type of evil is unimaginable, but common in our broken world. The guilty have no regard for others or fear of a holy God.

The humble look to God for justice. (12-15)

These verses represent a shift in the thoughts and prayers of the Psalmist (as well as the believer). He realizes the certainty of the wickedness of the earth, so he abandons the question of why and seeks the protection we all need that can only be provided by God. Have you considered what separates the unrighteous and the righteous? In a word, humility. The sinful are arrogant and the redeemed are readily aware of their need for salvation. God is close to the humble and hears their cries. We are not forgotten by God, nor will He neglect His promises to us.

God will overthrow injustice. (16-18)

The wicked and those against God are shortsighted. They live for themselves and the pleasures of the moment. A day is coming when their hedonism and depravity will come to an end. God will remember everyone who oppressed the less fortunate, shed the blood of the innocent, and harmed the weak. God's justice is coming. Where is our hope in times like these? Our hope and confidence are in the sovereignty of God. He remains in control despite what our eyes or feelings may indicate. His punishment for the wicked is eternal and the reward for the righteous is without expiration. When it comes to seeing all life as valuable, where do you stand? Are you lifting the fallen and a voice for those who cannot be heard?

McKay is pastor of New Liberty Baptist Church, Morton.