

Sunday Night Message

May 11, 2014

Psalm 64 – The Tongue of the Enemy

Series – The Psalms

Text – Psalm 64

Introduction

“To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David.”

This psalm obviously has a historical context involving one of David’s many enemies. It could have been Saul and his men, or it could have been Absalom and the men that were complicit with him. David had many main enemies, and each of his main enemies had allies, which meant that David had many more enemies than just his main enemies.

The psalm is also a prophetic picture of what Israel will be dealing with in the future as they endure the Great Tribulation. They too will have many enemies, and their enemies will have allies that conspire together against them in attempt to annihilate them.

There is also a lesson to be learned here for the Christian today. He also has many enemies. Satan is our main enemy, but Satan also has many allies, both spiritual and human that are complicit with him, and are more than willing to do his bidding.

“Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.”

(Ephesians 6:10-13)

“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:” (1 Peter 5:8)

Satan has a lot of people under his spell. They are willing accomplices with him as they seek to destroy the people of God.

We must not fight back with carnal weapons, however:

"For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)" (2 Corinthians 10:3-4)

"And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient, In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth; And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will." (2 Timothy 2:24-26)

I The Enemies of God Talk To People – We Talk to God (vs. 1 – 6)

"Hear my voice, O God, in my prayer: preserve my life from fear of the enemy." (Psalms 64:1)

As we have seen in previous psalms, David does not fight fire with fire. When his enemies come after him, he went to God. His way must have worked well because David died of old age, while one by one, his enemies perished by the sword.

Notice how the enemies of God's people use their tongues.

"Hide me from the secret counsel of the wicked; from the insurrection of the workers of iniquity:" (Psalms 64:2)

The enemy will gather together and counsel together against you.

A righteous man can be satisfied with the knowledge that he is right. He does not need the agreement of men in order to do right, but wicked men need each other, and they will say whatever they need to in order to get you to ally yourself with them.

"Who whet their tongue like a sword, and bend their bows to shoot their arrows, even bitter words: That they may shoot in secret at the perfect: suddenly do they shoot at him, and fear not." (Psalms 64:3 - 4)

Notice that they shoot their arrows (words) in secret. They never come at you with a frontal attack; they are always lurking around in the shadows.

Preaching Point – If you have a problem with someone, bring it to them and nobody else. Confront them face to face in a spirit of meekness. Never talk about the person to somebody else. Talk to them and resolve the conflict.

"They encourage themselves in an evil matter: they commune of laying snares privily; they say, Who shall see them?" (Psalms 64:5)

Encouragement is a good thing, and we ought to encourage each other to do right, but these men encourage each other to do evil.

"They search out iniquities; they accomplish a diligent search: both the inward thought of every one of them, and the heart, is deep." (Psalms 64:6)

They are always trying to find fault in what you are doing. They look for trouble, and they are quick to broadcast whatever they find.

They also act like they are your friends:

"For it was not an enemy that reproached me; then I could have borne it: neither was it he that hated me that did magnify himself against me; then I would have hid myself from him: But it was thou, a man mine equal, my guide, and mine acquaintance. We took sweet counsel together, and walked unto the house of God in company. ... The words of his mouth were smoother than butter, but war was in his heart: his words were softer than oil, yet were they drawn swords."
(Psalms 55:12-14, 21)

II The Enemies of God Trust in Their Own Strength – We Trust in God (vs. 7 – 10)

"But God shall shoot at them with an arrow; suddenly shall they be wounded. So they shall make their own tongue to fall upon themselves: all that see them shall flee away." (Psalms 64:7 - 8)

Notice that the enemies will reap what they tried to sow against God's people. All that they conspired to do to David will happen to them.

Illustrate – Haman was hanged on the gallows that he had made for Mordecai. (Esther 7:9)

"And all men shall fear, and shall declare the work of God; for they shall wisely consider of his doing. The righteous shall be glad in the LORD, and shall trust in him; and all the upright in heart shall glory." (Psalms 64:9 - 10)

The result will be that the righteous will wisely consider the demise of the wicked, while beholding the victory of God, and his faith will be strengthened.

Illustrate – I have watched the atheist crowd and the immoral crowd through the years, and their way always end up in disaster, while the righteous are blessed mightily of God. Their way may be fun for the short term, but the long term payback just isn't worth it.