

**Psalm 79**

A psalm of Asaph.

O God, heathens (גוים) have entered Your domain,  
defiled Your holy temple,  
and turned Jerusalem into ruins.

2. They have left Your servants' corpses  
as food for the fowl of heaven,  
and the flesh of Your faithful for the wild beasts.

3. Their blood was shed like water around Jerusalem,  
with none to bury them.

4. We have become the butt (קֶרֶךְ) of our neighbors,  
the scorn and derision of those around us.

5. How long, O LORD, will You be angry forever,  
will Your indignation blaze like fire?

6. Pour out Your fury on the nations that do not know You,  
upon the kingdoms that do not invoke Your name,

7. for they have devoured Jacob  
and desolated his home.

8. Do not hold our former iniquities against us;  
let Your compassion come swiftly toward us,  
for we have sunk very low.

9. Help us, O God, our deliverer,  
for the sake of the glory of Your name.  
Save us and forgive our sin,  
for the sake of Your name.

10. Let the nations not say, "Where is their God?"  
Before our eyes let it be known among the nations  
that You avenge the spilled blood of Your servants.

11. Let the groans of the prisoners reach You;  
reprise those condemned to death,  
as befits Your great strength.

12. Pay back our neighbors sevenfold  
for the abuse they have flung at You, O Lord.

13. Then we, Your people,  
the flock You shepherd,  
shall glorify You forever;  
for all time we shall tell Your praises.

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### **Psalm 44**

The beginning of the psalm reviews the good things God did for Israel, fighting for them, bringing them to their land.

8. You give us victory over our foes;  
You thwart those who hate us.

9. In God we glory at all times,  
and praise Your name unceasingly. *Selah*.

10. Yet You have rejected and disgraced us;  
You do not go with our armies.

11. You make us retreat before our foe;  
our enemies plunder us at will.

12. You let them devour us like sheep;  
You disperse us among the nations.

13. You sell Your people for no fortune,  
You set no high price on them.

14. You make us the butt of our neighbors,  
the scorn and derision of those around us.

15. You make us a byword among the nations,  
a laughingstock among the peoples.

16. I am always aware of my disgrace;  
I am wholly covered with shame

17. at the sound of taunting revilers,  
in the presence of the vengeful foe.

18. All this has come upon us,  
yet we have not forgotten You,  
or been false to Your covenant.

19. Our hearts have not gone astray,  
nor have our feet swerved from Your path,

20. though You cast us, crushed, to where the sea monster is,  
and covered us over with deepest darkness (צלמות).

21. If we forgot the name of our God  
and spread forth our hands to a foreign god,

22. God would surely search it out,  
for He knows the secrets of the heart.

23. It is for Your sake (עליך: because of you; it's your fault) that we are slain all day long,  
that we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.

24. Rouse Yourself; why do You sleep, O Lord?  
Awaken, do not reject us forever!

25. Why do You hide Your face,  
ignoring our affliction and distress?

26. We lie prostrate in the dust;  
our body clings to the ground.

27. Arise and help us,  
redeem us, as befits Your faithfulness.