

A Maskil of Asaph.

1 O God, **why do you cast us off forever?** Why does your anger smoke against the sheep of your pasture?
 2 **Remember your congregation**, which **you have purchased** of old, which **you have redeemed** to be the **tribe of your heritage!** **Remember Mount Zion**, where you have **dwelt**.

3 **Direct your steps** to the *perpetual ruins*; **the enemy** has *destroyed everything* in the *sanctuary*!
 4 **Your foes** have *roared in the midst of your meeting place*; they set up their own signs for signs.
 5 They were like those who swing axes in a forest of trees
 6 And all its carved wood they broke down with hatchets and hammers.
 7 *They set your sanctuary on fire*; they *profaned the dwelling place of your name*, bringing it down to the ground.
 8 They said to themselves, "*We will utterly subdue them*"; they *burned all the meeting places of God* in the land.
 9 We do not see our signs; there is no longer any prophet, and there is none among us who knows how long.
 10 **How long, O God**, is the foe to scoff? Is the enemy to revile your name forever?
 11 **Why do you hold back your hand**, your right hand? Take it from the **fold of your garment** and *destroy them!*

12 Yet **God my King** is **from of old**, **working salvation** in the midst of the earth.
[13 You divided the sea by your might; you broke the heads of the sea monsters on the waters.
 14 *You crushed the heads of Leviathan; you gave him as food for the creatures of the wilderness.*
 15 *You split open springs and brooks; you dried up ever-flowing streams.*
 16 *Yours is the day, yours also the night; you have established the heavenly lights and the sun.*
 17 *You have fixed all the boundaries of the earth; you have made summer and winter.]*
 18 **Remember this, O Lord**, how the enemy scoffs, and a foolish people *reviles your name*.
 19 Do not deliver the soul of your dove to the wild beasts; **do not forget** the life of your poor forever.
 20 **Have regard for the covenant**, for the dark places of the land are full of the habitations of violence.
 21 Let not the downtrodden turn back in shame; let the poor and needy praise **your name**.
 22 **Arise, O God, defend your cause**; **remember** how the foolish **scoff at you** all the day!
 23 **Do not forget** the clamor of your foes, the uproar of those who **rise against you**, which goes up continually!

Intro: Purchase Power. Cost of goods. Inflation.

Main Idea: "The Blood of Jesus never loses its value and redeeming power."

I. The Church (1-2)

- A. We're **HIS** congregation. **Church**. Belong to *Him*. His people group/tribe.
- B. **He purchased us**. **1Cor.6:19. Acts20:28;Gal.2.**
- C. **He redeemed us**. ***Titus 2:11-14***
- D. **We're His heritage**. **John 6:36-40. 1Pet. 2:9**
- E. **Where He dwells**. Temple. Lives. **Rev.21**

APPLICATION: 1) **Are you** a part of the **People of God?** **Jesus is the only way to the Father.**

II. Our Enemy (3-11)

- A. **Steps**. Walk this Way God! True around!
- B. **Name**. They're profaning *Your Name God!*
- C. **How Long** is this going to take? Why don't you do something? Where are you? Show up!
- D. **Idle**. Why are your hands in your pocket God?

APPLICATION: 1) **Persecution**. North Korea. China. Afghanistan. Bhutan. Africa. V.O.M. OpenDoors. This is still happening. Remember your brothers/sisters.

ILLUSTRATION: "**Don't forget them**." AmazonPrime. 2) **Utterly Subdue? Haha**. Gates of Hell. "*The blood of martyrs God seed of the Church*" - *Tertullian*. It's the ultimate power play by Jesus. *Turns suffering into glory*.

III. Our God (12-23)

- A. **Remember** your promises. Your **Name**. **Scoff at you!** Rise **against you!** (*why persecute me?*)
- ILLUSTRATION:** Tony Evans. Prayer. **Crusade**. Rain.: "About Your Name Jesus." **For Your Name!** Clouds.
- B. **Don't Forget**. Have Regard. Your **Covenant**. Your **cause**. The poor. Suffering. Oppressed.
 - C. **Arise**. Stand Up. Start moving. Do something!
 - D. **Praise**. **Rev. 19:1-3** (*Praise b/c He avenges.*)

APPLICATION: 1) **Pray in Jesus' Name FOR Jesus'** Name. Kingdom, Power and Glory forever! Amen.

CONCLUSION:

- A. ***Deuteronomy 7:6-10*; Rev. 6:10-11 - "That's the last time you'll ever get away with it."**
- B. **The Last Time:** *Tear cried, spouse cheats, liar twists the truth, woman gossips, child disobeys, teenager disrespects, corrupt politician, unjust law enforcement, parent abuses, Christian persecuted. "Vengeance is mine." - Is.1:24;Joel 3:21;Rom12:9*

1 Cor. 6:19-20 - Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

Acts 20:28 - Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God,[a] which he obtained with his own blood.

Titus 2:11-14 - For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.

John 6:36-40 - But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe. All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out. For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me. And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day.

1 Peter 2:9 - But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Rev. 19:1-3 - After this I heard what seemed to be the loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, crying out, "Hallelujah! Salvation and glory and power belong to our God, 2 for his judgments are true and just; for he has judged the great prostitute who corrupted the earth with her immorality, and has avenged on her the blood of his servants." 3 Once more they cried out, "Hallelujah! The smoke from her goes up forever and ever."

Deut. 7:6-10 - For you are a people holy to the Lord your God. The Lord your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the Lord set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, but it is because the Lord loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers, that the Lord has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. Know therefore that the Lord your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations, and repays to their face those who hate him, by destroying them. He will not be slack with one who hates him. He will repay him to his face.

Rev.6:10-11 - They cried out with a loud voice, "O Sovereign Lord, holy and true, how long before you will judge & avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?" Then they were each given a white robe & told to rest a little longer, until the number of their fellow servants & their brothers should be complete, who were to be killed as they themselves had

Isaiah 1:24 - Therefore the Lord declares, the Lord of hosts, the Mighty One of Israel: "Ah, I will get relief from my enemies and avenge myself on my foes.

Joel 3:21 - I will avenge their blood, blood I have not avenged, for the Lord dwells in Zion."

Romans 12:19 - Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord."