

When You Wonder How Long Before God Again Blesses his People and Puts Down His Enemies?

Psalm 74

The Background

Destruction of Temple and Invasion by Foreign Army

Temple, v 3, 4, 7

When?

5 temples

Temple started in 967 BC When Jerusalem fell to the Babylonians in 587 BC Solomon's temple was burnt (2 Kings 25:9, 13-17) See Psalms 74:4, 7; 79:1 Isaiah 63: 18; 64: 11Jer 51:51 Lam 1:10; Lam 2:7,20.

Temple

Started 536 BC, resumed 520 BC finished 516 BC, Ezra 1-6; 1:2-4 and 6:3-5, 3:7 Haggai and Zechariah (1-8) Ezra 6:14 completion, second somewhat "inferior" to the first (Hag 2:3; Zech 4:10 Ezr 3:12. This temple was destroyed again or severely damaged as can be read about in 1 Macc and Josephus.

Temple

Herod became King *de facto* by his capture of Jerusalem in 37 BC. For political purposes, he rebuilt the temple (Jesus reference John 2:20), this work was not completed until 64 AD, and 6 years later it was destroyed by the Romans in AD 70. NO Jewish temple has been there since then.

Temple

Rev 11:1-3; 2 Thess 2:3-4

Temple

Ezekiel 40-48

Built during millennial kingdom.

Foreign Army

V 4, 10, 18, 23

Especially distressing

74:20

79:2, 3, Lam 1:5; 2:11,12,20; 4:4, 5, 9 10

Anguished Sobs of a _____, 1-3

God is angry over the sin of Israel, see Lamentations 2:3; 3:40-48, he has punished his people like he said he would, Deut 30:11-20.

“Why” is likely rhetorical in v 1.

Destruction of Temple _____, 4-8.

Deafening silence of God, 9-11.

See also Lam 2:9 14.

God says “If you won’t hear me, I won’t speak to you.”

You don’t ever want to be here, personally.

Although there is no current prophetic voice from God, his attributes and works are remembered, 12-17.

Similar to Job 23:8-12.

The humble cry of God’s _____, 18-23.

Remember

You, 18

Your dove, your people, your covenant, 18-19.

“poor and needy”

Your cause, 22

Your adversaries 23

Your enemies, 23.

So what?

God in his righteous anger does _____!

He was patient for years, and warned for years.

Sometimes even the righteous ask “_____?”

God’s character and promises can be remembered and appealed to in horrible times even when it seems God does not hear or answer your prayers.

Isaiah 40:27-31 is the hope for the repentant, humble righteous remnant.