

Imprecatory Psalms

I. Problem.

- A. There are passages in the Bible which call down God's curse upon his enemies.
- B. Often in the Psalms, called imprecatory Psalms.
- C. Examples: Ps. 55, 59, 69, 79, 109, 137, etc.
- D. How can we justify these imprecations and reconcile them with a loving God?
- E. Imprecation: invoking judgment, calamity, or curse in an appeal to God.

II. Clarification.

- A. Imprecation in the New Testament.
 - 1. The 'woes' of Jesus.
 - 2. The curses of Paul.
- B. Not expressions of personal vengeance but zeal for God's kingdom and his righteousness.
- C. Directed against those in open rebellion against God, calling for divine justice.
- D. A precursor of judgment to come, the judgment of the Great White Throne.
- E. A call for God to be the judge.