

Judicial Dialogue

Psalms of Asaph · Book III

“A Psalm by Asaph.”

IN ONE SENTENCE



God stands in the divine council and judges the unjust, commanding them to defend the weak, fatherless, and needy.

Remember it: Eighty-two: in God's courtroom, judges are judged by how they treat the weak.

MEMORY VERSE

“Defend the weak, the poor, and the fatherless. Maintain the rights of the poor and oppressed.

Psalm 82:3 · World English Bible

HEBREW WORD



“the weak” · verse 3

In the Psalms: five times, in 4 psalms

לַחֲלָוִים describes someone low, thin, or brought down, with little standing or strength. God's law repeatedly tells his people to protect such people and not to tilt judgment against them. In this courtroom, the measure of every judge is how they treat the weak.

HOW THE PSALM MOVES

1–2 God takes his seat in the council and charges unjust judges.

3–4 Defend the weak, the fatherless, and the needy.

5–7 The judges walk in darkness and will die like men.

8 Arise, God, and judge the whole earth.

IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

v. 6 → John 10:34 Jesus: 'Is it not written in your law, I said, you are gods?'

MY NOTES



Listen. Hear Psalm 82 sung in the **Psalm Song** app, or free at ispress.de/psalms/82.

Cantillated. Sung: chanted back and forth between a leader and the people.

Justice on the Wicked

The LORD Reigns

FILL IN THE BLANKS

God stands in the divine _____ and judges the _____, commanding them to defend the weak, _____, and needy.

CHECK YOURSELF

1. Where does God preside?

(A) In the great assembly

(B) On Mount Sinai

(C) In the king's palace

(D) At the city gate

2. What are the judges told to do for the weak and needy?

(A) Tax them

(B) Rescue them

(C) Send them away

(D) Teach them the law

3. What does verse 8 ask God to do?

(A) Rest from his work

(B) Choose a new king

(C) Judge the earth

(D) Build his house

TALK IT OVER

1. What exactly does God accuse the judges of in verse 2?

2. Jesus quotes verse 6 in John 10:34. What does this psalm teach about God as the final judge?

3. Who are the weak, fatherless, and needy near you, and how can you defend them?

IN YOUR OWN WORDS: WHAT DOES PSALM 82 TEACH?

☐ I listened to the song

☐ I can say what it teaches

☐ I can say verse 3 by heart

☐ I know the picture word

Answers: Blanks: council · unjust · fatherless · Check yourself: 1. A (v. 1) · 2. B (v. 4) · 3. C (v. 8)