

Communal Confidence with Imprecation

Writer not named · Book V · Songs of Ascents

"A Song of Ascents."

PICTURE WORD

Furrows

IN ONE SENTENCE

*hough Israel has been cruelly plowed under since youth, the righteous LORD cuts the cords of the wicked and frees his people.***Remember it:** One twenty-nine: they plowed my back, but the LORD cut the cords.

MEMORY VERSE

Yahweh is righteous. He has cut apart the cords of the wicked.

Psalm 129:4 · World English Bible

HEBREW WORD

צַדִּיק

"righteous" · verse 4

In the Psalms: 52 times, in 32 psalms

צַדִּיק means "righteous," one who is in the right and does what is right. Applied to the LORD, it means he never ignores wrong. Israel's enemies plowed long furrows on its back, but the righteous LORD cut the ropes that harnessed the plow.

HOW THE PSALM MOVES

1-3 Israel recalls long affliction, like plowing on its back

4 The righteous LORD cuts the cords of the wicked

5-8 Zion's haters wither like rooftop grass, unblessed

MY NOTES

**Listen.** Hear Psalm 129 sung in the **Psalm Song** app, or free at ispress.de/psalms/129.**Cantillated.** Sung: chanted back and forth between a leader and the people.

Justice on the Wicked

God Will Not Abandon You

Enemies & Betrayal

FILL IN THE BLANKS

Though Israel has been cruelly _____ under since youth, the righteous LORD cuts the _____ of the wicked and _____ his people.

CHECK YOURSELF

1. How long had Israel been afflicted?

Ⓐ Since the exile

Ⓑ From my youth

Ⓒ For forty years

Ⓓ Seven times

2. What did the plowers do?

Ⓐ Planted thorns

Ⓑ Burned the fields

Ⓒ Plowed on my back and made long furrows

Ⓓ Stole the harvest

3. The enemies of Zion are wished to be like...

Ⓐ chaff in the wind

Ⓑ a broken pot

Ⓒ smoke

Ⓓ grass on the housetops

TALK IT OVER

1. What picture does the psalm use for Israel's suffering, and how does it end?

2. What does it mean to you that the LORD is righteous?

3. Where have you been afflicted again and again, yet not overcome?

IN YOUR OWN WORDS: WHAT DOES PSALM 129 TEACH?

☐ I listened to the song

☐ I can say what it teaches

☐ I can say verse 4 by heart

☐ I know the picture word

Answers: Blanks: plowed · cords · frees · Check yourself: 1. B (v. 1) · 2. C (v. 3) · 3. D (v. 6)