

Psalme 73

*Faithful people preffed with perfecution lamentably com-
playning, befecheth God to respect his owne inheritance,
cruelly afflicted; 10. and leift long without helpe, 12. wheras
heretofore he releued his people in like diftreffes. 18. And
therefore confidently hopeth he wil reuenge the blasphe-
mers of his name.*

A prayer in
long affliction.
The 7. key.

Vnderftanding ^a)to Afaph.

Why haft thou ô God ^b)repelled for euer: is
thy furie wrath vpon the sheepe of thy
pasture?

² Be ^c)mindful of thy congregation, ^d)which thou
haft poffeffed from the beginning.

Thou haft ^e)redemed the rod of thine inheritance:
mount Sion, in which thou haft dwelt.

³ Lift vp thy handes vpon ^f)their prides for euer:
how great thinges hath the enimie done malignantly in
the holy place:

⁴ And they that hate thee haue gloried in the mid-
des of ^g)thy folemnitie.

^a Infruction for the congregation of the faithful in diftrefse, not to
feeke temporal rewardes and prosperitie, but to expect fpiritual
and eternal. *S. Aug.*

^b In long perfecution the weake beginne to feare, or fufpect, that
God hath vtterly abandoned them.

^c But the ftronger pray with confidence,

^d being affured that God who hath conferued his Church hitherto,
from the beginning of the world, wil conferue it ftill to the end.

^e An other reafon why God wil conferue his Church is, becaufe
he hath deliuered it often in a ftrong arme; as from bondage in
Ægypt, from perfecution and oppreffion in the time of Iudges,
and kinges, and laftly redemed it from the tyrannie of the diuel
by Chrifts death.

^f Thirdly the pride of the enimies moueth God to reuenge their
wickednes, and fo to deliuer his owne people.

^g They pretend to kepe folemne feaftes like to thyne.

They haue fette ^{a)}their signes, for signes: ⁵ and haue not knowne, ^{b)}as in the iffue on high.

As ^{c)}in a wood of trees they haue with axes ⁶ cut out the gates therof together: in hatchet, and chippeaxe they haue cast it downe.

4. Reg. 25. ⁷ They haue burnt thy fanctuarie with fire: they haue polluted the tabernacle of thy name in the earth.

⁸ Their ^{d)}kinred together haue faide in their hart: Let vs make al the festiual daies of God to ceafe from the earth.

⁹ Our ^{e)}signes we haue not feene, there is now no prophet: and he wil know vs no more.

¹⁰ How long ô God shal the enimie vpbraide: the aduerfarie prouoke thy name for euer?

¹¹ Why doeft thou turne away thy hand, and thy right hand, out of the middes of thy bofome for euer?

Luc. 1. v. 70 ¹² But ^{f)}God our king before the worldes: he hath wrought faluation in the middes of the earth.

¹³ Thou in thy ftrengh haft confirmed ^{g)}the fea: thou haft ^{h)}crushed the head of Dragons in the waters.

¹⁴ Thou haft broken the heads of the dragon: thou haft giuen him for meate to the peoples ⁱ⁾of the Æthiopi-ans.

^a They fet vp altars againft thyn altares, or fome new deuifed external shew, againft the holie Rites of the Church:

^b and that in publike places, in the endes of high wayes, or portes, and pinnacles.

^c The prophet describeth the maner how perfecutors deftroy temples, and al sacred thinges.

^d The whole crew, or band of perfecutors.

^e The weake complaine that God sheweth not wonted signes, nor fendeth succour to his people, by raising some prophet, or other meanes to helpe them.

^f The perfect do answer, that God both hath, and wil releue his people.

^g Made the redde sea like walles.

^h Drowned Pharaos and his hostes.

ⁱ Of blacke diuels.

15 Thou hast ^a)broken vp fountanes, and torrentes:
thou hast dried the riuers ^b)of Ethan.

16 The day is thine, and the night is thine: thou
hast made the morning and the funne.

17 Thou hast made al the coasts of the earth: the
summer and the spring thou hast formed them.

18 Be mindeful of this, the enimie hath vpbraided
our Lord: and a foolish people hath prouoked thy name.

19 Deliuer not to beafts the foules that confesse to
thee: and the foules of thy poore forget not for euer.

20 Haue respect vnto thy testament: because they
that are ^c)obscure of the earth, are filled with houses of
iniquities.

21 ^d)Let not the humble be turned away being con-
founded: the poore and needy shal praise thy name.

22 Arise God, iudge thy cause: be mindful of those
thy reproches, that are ^e)from the foolish man al the day.

23 ^f)Forget not the voices of thine enemies: the ^g)pride
of them that hate thee, hath ascended alwaies.

^a Geuen water out of rockes.

^b Made passage ouer Iordan.

^c Ignorant, blind, and barbarous infidels, lodge al kindes of iniquitie
in their consciences;

^d and therefore it is vnmeet, that faithful people should be in bondage
vnder them.

^e These foolish audacious men do continually blaspheme al holie
thinges.

^f Omite not to punish them,

^g feing they are obstinate and obdurate in pride, and in hatred.