

Psalme 73

Faithful people pressed with perfecution lamentably complaining, befecheth God to respect his owne inheritance, cruelly afflicted; 10. and leift long without helpe, 12. whereas heretofore he releued his people in like distreffes. 18. And therefore confidently hopeth he wil reuenge the blafphemers 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 pature?

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 middes of ^{g)}thy folemnitie.

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- ^a Infruction for the congregation of the faithful in diftreffe, 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 finnes, for finnes: 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 caft 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)finnes 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 fhew, 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 defcribeth the maner how perfecutors deftroy temples, and al facred thinges.

^d The whole crew, or band of perfecutors.

^e The weake complaine that God fheweth not wanted finnes, nor fendeth fuccourfe to his people, by raifing fome prophet, or other meanes to helpe them.

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

^g Made the redde fea like walles.

^h Drowned Pharao and his hofte.

ⁱ Of blacke diuels.

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

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

17 Thou haft made al the coafts of the earth: the
fummer and the fpring thou haft 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 teftament: becaufe they
that are ^{c)}obfcure of the earth, are filled with houfes of
iniquities.

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

22 Arife God, iudge thy caufe: be mindful of thofe
thy reproches, that are ^{e)}from the foolish man al the day.

23 ^{f)}Forget not the voices of thine enimies: the
^{g)}pride of them that hate thee, hath afcended alwaies.

^a Geuen water out of rockes.

^b Made paffage ouer Iordan.

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

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

^e Thefe foolish audacious men do continually blafpheme al holie
thinges.

^f Omite not to punish them,

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