

Psalme 78

The Prophet, in perfon of the Church, lamenteth the crueltie of perfecutors (both in the old and new teftament) 5. prayeth for releafe, with iuft reuenge againft Gods enimies, that blafpheme his name, 13. and promifeth to be grateful in diuine praifes.

The Church fuffereth verie great perfecutions. The 6. key.

A Pfalme ^a)to Afaph.

Ô God ^b)the Gentiles are come into thine inheritance, they ^c)haue polluted thy holie temple: they haue made Ierufalem ^d)as a watch toure of fruits.

² They haue made ^e)the carcafes of thy feruants, meats for the foules of the aire: the flesh of thy faintes for the beaftes of the land.

³ They haue poured out their bloude as water round about Ierufalem: and there was none to burie them.

⁴ We are ^f)become a reproch to our neighboures: a fcorne and mocke to them that are round about vs.

⁵ How long ô Lord wilt thou ^g)be angrie for euer: shal thy zele be kindled as a fire?

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- ^a To be fungue by Afaph and his companie, in the behalfe of people vnited in faith.
 - ^b Cruel infidels haue inuaded thofe thinges, which perteyne to thy Church,
 - ^c euen poffeffed and prophaned the holie temple of the Iewes, and Churches of Catholique Chriftians. Fulfilled by Antiochus, in Ierufalem; by the Vandals in Afrike; by Proteftants, and Puritanes, in diuers partes of Europe, and wil be more vniuerfally by Antichrift in al Chriftendom.
 - ^d In fteed of great and fare Churches, Gods feruantes are fane to vfe meane houfes, yea poore cotages.
 - ^e Some perfecutors fuffer not Martyrs bodies to be buried, but hang them on polles, and pinnacles, where birdes may eate them.
 - ^f Chriftianes Gallileans, Catholiques Homoufians, and now Papiftes, in fpite and reproch.
 - ^g Sinnes prouoking Gods wrath, are one caufe why he fuffereth his people to be perfecuted.

⁶ Poure out thy wrath vpon the Gentiles, ^{a)}that haue not knowne thee: & vpon the kingdomes, that haue not inuocated thy name.

⁷ Because they haue deuoured Iacob: and his place they haue made defolate.

⁸ ^{b)}Remember not our old iniquities, let thy mercies quickly preuent vs: because we are become exceding ^{c)}poore.

⁹ Help vs ô God our fauour: and for the glorie of thy name ô Lord deliuer vs: and be propitious to our finnes for thy names sake.

¹⁰ Left they fay perhaps amongft the Gentiles: ^{d)}Where is their God? and ^{e)}be notified in the nations before our eies.

The reuenge of the bloud of thy feruants, which hath benne shed: ¹¹ let the groning of the fettered enter in thy fight.

According to the greatnes of thine arme, poffeffe thou ^{f)}the children of them that are put to death.

¹² And ^{g)}render to our neighboures feuensfold in their bofome: their reproch wherewith they haue reproched thee ô Lord.

^a Though the faithful committe fome finnes, yet in refpect that they beleue rightly, haue zeale in Gods caufe, and denie not God, they are nerer to grace and fauour.

^b Efpecially when they repent, and confeffe their finnes, then thofe that neither know nor wil know God; but obtinatly impugne and refift the truth.

^c So much afflicted, and defpifed, that none wil regard the truth which we profefse.

^d Albeit ô Lord, thou fuffer vs to be punifhed, yet fuffer not thyn enemies to infuld, as though thou were not our God; and confequently thou haddeft no people at al in the world.

^e Therefore we pray, that the reuenge of thy feruantes bloud may be fo notified, that it can not be denied, nor doubted of. Which is alfo here prophecied, that it wil fo come to paffe in the end.

^f Preferue alfo, ô God, the reliques of thy feruantes, the fuceffors of thy Martyrs.

^g This alfo is a prophecie, that God wil moft feuerely reuenge the blafphemie of perfecutors.

¹³ But ^a)we thy people, and the sheepe of thy pafure,
wil confesse to thee for euer.

Vnto generation and generation we wil shew forth
thy praife.

^a Gods people deliuered from perfecution, and perpetually conferued,
wil alwayes praife God for the fame.