

SUMMER IN THE PSALMS

Seeing the Big Picture **Psalm 59**

1. Are you more likely to see the forest, and not the trees, or do you like finding the devil in the details of the trees? Which do you think is more important?
2. Is it easier for you to read this psalm through the eyes of David the fugitive and his desperation or as David the king and his impact on all the people of the earth? Why?
3. What kinds of opposition have you faced in your life? Have you ever faced opposition for sharing your faith? Have you ever been able to rejoice that you were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name of Jesus (Acts 5.40-41)?
4. Why do you think churches in many parts of the world face severe opposition and persecution and we face little to none?
5. Have you ever prayed for God to be awakened to your needs (v4-5)? What can we learn from David's prayer life?
6. In v11-13, what does David pray for "my people" and "the ends of the earth"? Is this David the fugitive praying or David the king?
7. Why is it difficult to see our suffering through the lens of God's glory?
8. In v8 David says that God laughs at our enemies' plans. What does he mean by this, and how does this encourage us in the midst of facing our enemies?
9. Should a Christian pray for God to destroy his/her enemies? In v4 David pleaded his innocence. What role does self-examination play in asking God to destroy our enemies? How will we know if our prayer is right before God?
10. The enemy has been trying to destroy God's people (and God's Messiah) since the beginning of time. How does it encourage you to look back on God's sovereignty and power through the opposition you have faced?