

PSALM 50

In the first six verses of this psalm God is calling Israel, his chosen people, to judgment. In the next section, verses 7-15, is given the nature of the worship that God will accept. The wicked, in verses 16-21, are accused of breaching the last five of the Ten Commandments. Finally, Asaph closes with a word of threatening and a call to honor God. Let us meditate upon this psalm, for a day is coming when Christ will judge the world. Let us, then, live as becomes our profession of faith in the meritorious death of Christ alone for our sins.

A Psalm of Asaph.

- 1 The Mighty One, God, YAHWEH, has spoken,
and summoned the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.
- 2 Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God has shone forth.
- 3 May our God come and not keep silence; fire devours before Him,
and it is very tempestuous around Him.
- 4 He summons the heavens above, and the earth, to judge His people:
- 5 “Gather My godly ones to Me, those who have made a covenant with Me by sacrifice.”
- 6 And the heavens declare His righteousness, for God Himself is judge. Selah.

- 7 “Hear, O My people, and I will speak; O Israel, I will testify against you;
I am God, your God.
- 8 “I do not reprove you for your sacrifices,
and your burnt offerings are continually before Me.
- 9 “I shall take no young bull out of your house nor male goats out of your folds.
- 10 “For every beast of the forest is Mine, the cattle on a thousand hills.
- 11 “I know every bird of the mountains, and everything that moves in the field is Mine.
- 12 “If I were hungry I would not tell you, for the world is Mine, and all it contains.
- 13 “Shall I eat the flesh of bulls or drink the blood of male goats?
- 14 “Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving and pay your vows to the Most High;
- 15 Call upon Me in the day of trouble; I shall rescue you, and you will honor Me.”

- 16 But to the wicked God says, “What right have you to tell of My statutes
and to take My covenant in your mouth?
- 17 “For you hate discipline, and you cast My words behind you.
- 18 “When you see a thief, you are pleased with him, and you associate with adulterers.
- 19 “You let your mouth loose in evil and your tongue frames deceit.
- 20 “You sit and speak against your brother; you slander your own mother’s son.
- 21 “These things you have done and I kept silence; you thought that I was just like you;
I will reprove you and state *the case* in order before your eyes.

- 22 “Now consider this, you who forget God,

or I will tear you in pieces, and there will be none to deliver.
23 “He who offers a sacrifice of thanksgiving honors Me;
and to him who orders *his way aright* I shall show the salvation of God.”

PRAYER

Heavenly Father, we give you humble thanks for granting us the knowledge of your grace and saving faith. Increase this knowledge, and confirm our faith that we may devote ourselves entirely to your service, and in due time we shall be made partakers of everlasting salvation through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. Amen.