

Arise O Lord
(Psalm 12; Isaiah 57:1; Micah 7:2)

Help, Lord! For principled and godly people are here no more; faithfulness and the faithful vanish from among the sons of men. To his neighbor each one speaks words without use or worth or truth; with flattering lips and double heart they speak; the wicked walk or prowl about on every side, as vileness is exalted among the sons of men (Psalm 12:1-2,8).

Today, we are living the words of this psalm written thousands of years ago. It is prophetic in its content, although not related to the end times, but having significance to the Jewish nation. As the world turns to its destination, wickedness has increased to a degree of discomfort for all of us who love the Lord. In this absolutely chaotic and confused world, where the good is bad and the bad is good, where evil is accepted and immorality is the way of life, the doors of our religious and moral freedoms are shut. We cry like the psalmist did, Help Lord, for godly people are few; faithfulness vanishes from among us; we are few who fear You! The Lord's promise is that He will arise and set us free from this perilous time of great stress and trouble.

We live in a society of self-centered and lovers of self. Everyone is plugged to the world of their own. Mothers walk with their kids unplugged to their needs, spending hours on the phone chatting about nothing of value. Husbands and wives sit together in a restaurant each with a phone on their ears. The world of communication is open to anywhere else but home. It is a world of loose ends without a solution, for no one thinks it to be a problem. The ears of those so called Christians are plugged to their electronic gods; we are not interested in hearing God. When someone says, "God spoke to me" he is reprimanded for saying that. It is a world of lukewarm-ness and faithless even among the Christians. Isaiah asked the question: Who has believed our message? They crucified their Messiah for not having believed the message. The world is beheading the born again believers not to hear the message of salvation. Devastation is upon all those who practice wickedness; it is a sure thing. It will come. While there are persecutions against the believers, the wicked rejoice. But soon it will all change.

The cry to the Lord for help from the righteous ones has been heard. Soon YAHSHUA will come from heaven to deliver us from the wrath that is coming upon the wicked and will draw us to Himself (I Thess. 1:10 b). When they are saying, All is well and secure, and, there is peace and safety, then in a moment unforeseen destruction will come upon them as suddenly as labor pains come upon a woman with child; and they shall by no means escape, for there will be no escape (I Thess. 5:3). The blood of the righteous will be avenged at YAHSHUA'S coming. The apostle Paul comforted the suffering Thessalonians with these words: **This is positive proof of the just and right judgment of God to the end that you may be deemed deserving of His kingdom, for the sake of which you are also suffering; since it is a righteous thing with God to repay with distress and affliction those who distress and afflict you and to [recompense] you who are so distressed and afflicted [by granting you] relief and rest along with us when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels in a flame of fire to deal out retribution upon those who do not know or perceive or become acquainted with God, and who ignore and refuse to obey the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. Such people will pay the**

penalty and suffer the punishment of everlasting ruin and eternal exclusion and banishment from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power when He comes to be glorified in His saints and [He will] be marveled at and admired in all who have believed, because our witnessing among you was confidently accepted and believed (II Thess. 1:5-10). Our unwavering hope is established in our Savior and Lord, YAHSHUA. The Prophet Isaiah prophesied this many years ago: The righteous man perishes, and no one lays it to heart; and merciful and devout men are taken away, with no one considering that the uncompromisingly upright and godly person is taken away from the calamity and evil to come. He enters into peace; they rest in their beds, each one who walks straight and in his uprightness (Isaiah 57:1-2). Even in death, the righteous ones will find rest in the living hope of their salvation.

The Prophet Micah also prophesied about days like today; he said, The godly man has perished from the earth, and there is none upright among men. They all lie in wait for blood; each hunts his brother with a net...trust not in a neighbor; put no confidence in a friend. Keep the doors of your mouth from her who lies in your bosom... but as for me, I will look to the Lord and confident in I will keep watch; I will wait with hope and expectancy for the God of my salvation; my God will hear me (Micah 7: 2, 5, 7). In these evil times there is wisdom to keep quiet, as the Prophet Amos advised: Therefore he who is prudent will keep silence in such time, for it is an evil time (Amos 5: 13). When the Lord will come to avenge His people will be a day of darkness; it will be as if a man fled from a lion and a bear met him, or went into the house and leaned with his hand against the wall and a serpent bit him (Amos 5: 19,20); the Prophet Joel describes as A day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and of thick mists and darkness, like the morning dawn spread upon the mountains; (Joel 2:2). In God's point and time redemption will come to all who believe in Him and has faith in His promises. Meanwhile let's have the righteous attitude of Habakkuk: Though the fig tree does not blossom and there is no fruit on the vines, [though] the product of the olive fails and the fields yield no food, though the flock is cut off from the fold and there are no cattle in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the Lord; I will exult in the God of my salvation! The Lord God is my Strength, my personal bravery, and my invincible army; He makes my feet like hinds feet and will make me to walk and make progress upon my high places [of trouble, suffering or responsibility]. (Habakkuk 3:17-19).

Let God's strength be visible in our weakness. Soon and very soon we will see Him as He is and as He is we shall be! HALLELUIA!