

PSALM 74

¹ *A Psalm* of instruction, of Asaph.

Why have You rejected *us*, O God, forever? *Why* has Your wrath been kindled against the sheep of Your pasture?

² Remember Your congregation which You have purchased from the beginning; You ransomed the rod of Your inheritance, this Mount Zion where You have dwelt.

³ Lift up Your hands against their pride continually; *because of* all that the enemy has done wickedly in Your holy places.

⁴ And they that hate You have boasted in the midst of Your feast; they have set up their standards for signs,

⁵ ignorantly as it were in the entrance above;

⁶ they cut down its doors at once with axes as in a wood of trees; they have broken it down with hatchet and stone cutter.

⁷ They have burned Your sanctuary with fire to the ground; they have profaned the habitation of Your name.

⁸ They have said in their heart, *even* all their kindred together, "Come, let us abolish the feasts of the Lord from the earth."

⁹ We have not seen our signs; there is no longer a prophet; and *God* will not know us anymore.

¹⁰ How long, O God, shall the enemy reproach? Shall the enemy provoke Your name forever?

¹¹ Why do You turn away Your hand, and Your right hand from the midst of Your bosom forever?

¹² But God is our King from of old; He has wrought salvation in the midst of the earth.

¹³ You established the sea in Your might, You broke to pieces the heads of the dragons in the water.

¹⁴ You broke to pieces the heads of the dragon; You gave him *as* meat to the Ethiopian nations.

¹⁵ You broke open the fountains and torrents; You dried up mighty rivers.

¹⁶ The day is Yours, and the night is Yours; You have prepared the sun and the moon.

¹⁷ You have made all the borders of the earth; You have made summer and spring.

¹⁸ Remember this Your creation; an enemy has reproached the Lord, and a foolish people have provoked Your name.

¹⁹ Do not deliver to the wild beasts a soul that gives praise to You: do not forget forever the souls of Your poor.

²⁰ Look upon Your covenant; for the dark *places* of the earth are filled with the habitations of iniquity.

²¹ Let not the afflicted and ashamed one be rejected; the poor and needy shall praise Your name.

²² Arise, O God, plead Your cause; remember Your reproaches that come from the foolish one all the day.

²³ Do not forget the voice of Your enemies; let the pride of them that hate You continually ascend before You.