

Standing in the Silence

Psalm 10

1) A covenant complaint. (1)

- Distance
- "Missing presence"
- Confusion

2) A covenant conflict (2a) - see Rev. 6:10

- A call to covenant faithfulness
- Wicked is "rising" against the innocent

3) A covenant dependence (2b, 12)

- Mirrors the genuine plea of Psalm 9 and elsewhere that the wicked would be taken in their own devices. NOTE: this is not a "mercenary" action. This is a humble but bold plea to God to take care of the problem.

4) Cry for help (3)

5) An implied examination (3-12) sandwiched between the two cries for help.

Trait	Verse	Description	Cross-Reference
Boastful & Covetous	v. 3	Blesses the greedy, renounces the LORD	Rom 1:32 The wicked celebrate what God condemns.
Proud & Self-Sufficient	v. 4	God is not in all his thoughts	Prov 6:17
No Fear of God	vv. 5–11	Ways prosper, no judgment in sight, mouth full of curses, preys on helpless	Titus 1:16

- "If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me." (Psa. 66:18)
- Wicked is arrogant and self-serving (3)
- Wicked is covetous (and supports the covetous even though God hates that) (3)
 - How does Rom. 1:32 mirror this same accusation?
- Wicked is proud and self-sufficient (4)
 - How does this tie into the "abomination" list in Prov. 6:17
- Wicked doesn't "consider God" (4)
 - Remember the definition of "godly" as "considering what would please God in this situation."
 - This man doesn't even think about that – it's not a "warring conscience," it's a conscience that's not even stirred at all.
 - Think of Titus 1:16 – a group that has a form of "godliness," but in their deeds (and clearly their thoughts) they have completely strayed from Him.
 - What is the root of this attitude?

- How could we fall into this attitude ourselves (see 1 Tim. 4:12)?
- Think of this quote by Gordon and Bunyan: **"You can do more than pray after you have prayed** but you cannot do more than pray until you have prayed."
- Wicked's ways are without fear (5-11)
 - Grievous ways because He doesn't keep an eye on God's judgment
 - Arrogant puffing at enemies and trials (6) - a hardness of heart
 - Treats others (think: poor in 2a) with contempt, not considering their Maker is watching (7-9)
 - He preys on those who don't know any better (9-10)
 - Whatever he says with his mouth, his heart is fearless and despising of the thought of God's accountability (11)
- David, by stating these things, is distancing himself from this mindset.
 - What's the difference between being a sinner and living in sin? (see Psa 51; Rom 7:24–25 and compare to v. 3; 1 John 3:6–9)
 - How is it that a Christian can be well-aware of his own sinfulness but can also recognize that he's right with God? (Rom 4:5–8; 2 Cor 5:21 and compare to Rom 7:20)
 - Is it possible to be sinlessly perfect? (1 John 1:8, compare to Phil 3:12–14)

6) Another cry for help (12)

7) A definitive distancing (13)

Wicked's Delusion	Verse	God's Reality
Wherefore doth the wicked contemn God? he hath said in his heart, Thou wilt not require it."	v. 13	"Thou hast seen it; for thou beholdest mischief and spite, to requite it with thy hand..." (v. 14)
"Thou wilt not require it."	v. 13	"Break thou the arm of the wicked and the evil man: seek out his wickedness till thou find none." (v. 15)
"I shall not be moved... I shall never be in adversity."	v. 6	"The LORD is King for ever and ever: the heathen are perished out of his land." (v. 16)

- A mindset that seems so foreign (13)
 - "Of Course God will judge!" (14)
- An arrogance that seems so stupid (15)
 - "Of Course God will destroy the wicked!" (15-16)
- A presumption that seems so short-sighted (15,17)
 - "Of Course no man could supplant God!" (16)
- An alignment that (from a human standpoint) seems so dumb in the moment (17-18)
 - "Of Course God will provide!" (17-18)

Note this: Psalm 10 ends not with ruin, but with a reminder of God's Fatherhood.

- Silence is answered by Sovereignty
- Doubt is answered by Relationship
- Fear is answered by Love

Application:

1. **Lament boldly** – “Pour out your heart” (Psa 62:8).
2. **Examine honestly** – “Search me, O God” (Psa 139:23).
3. **Pray imprecatorily** – “Let them be taken in the devices...” (v. 2).
4. **Hope eternally** – “The LORD is King for ever” (v. 16).