

"ENEMIES? I HAVE NO ENEMIES?"

PSALM 7



"Enemies? I have no enemies." I'd been singing a Psalm in church one Sunday morning, one of the many Psalms in which David sings about his enemies. I was singing with my mouth, but not with my heart, because my mind had decided this was irrelevant. I was twelve-years-old, growing up in the peaceful middle-class suburbs of Glasgow. The biggest enemy I had at that point was my alarm clock. "Enemies? I have no enemies. So why am I singing about them?"

It's a question I'm sure many of you have as we open Psalm 7 in today's podcast. So do we just skip this Psalm as irrelevant? Or is there a way to apply it to our lives?

LEARNING

OUR ENEMIES ARE WORLDWIDE

One way is to sing Psalm 7 and others like it less selfishly. Although it doesn't apply so obviously to me, it does apply to many of God's persecuted people around the world. As we sing this Psalm, we identify with them, we unite with them, we sympathize with them, and we pray for their protection.

THE ENEMY OF MY ENEMY
IS MY FRIEND.

Do I have no enemies closer to home?

OUR ENEMIES USE CULTURE

Another way is to think not in terms of individual enemies who are after us personally, but of types of enemies who are dedicated to destroying Christianity. Many in the media, the courts, schools, and politics have dedicated themselves to destroying Christianity. Each day they get up, they are motivated by hatred for God's truth, God's values, and God's morals. Their enmity may not be against us individually and personally, but they are no less our enemies.

SOLDIERS CAN ATTACK THE BODY,
BUT SOCIAL MEDIA CAN ATTACK THE SOUL.

So, do I have no personal enemies?

OUR ENEMY IS THE DEVIL

But, the best way to sing this Psalm is to think of our greatest enemy, the devil. This is real, daily, full-time, personal enmity. Although we cannot see him, he is totally committed to the destruction of every Christian every where. Re-read and re-sing this Psalm with him in mind, and you'll soon find your heart engaged and your volume increased.

IF THE DEVIL IS NOT OUR ENEMY,
CHRIST IS NOT OUR SAVIOR.

LOVING

While we sing of our enemies' powerful hatred, we are also singing of our Savior's even more powerful love. "**O Lord my God, in you do I take refuge; save me from all my pursuers and deliver me, lest like a lion they tear my soul apart, rending it in pieces, with none to deliver**" (1-2). Let's worship our Savior by asking him to protect us by judging his and our enemies here and now. Let's also adore him by praying for the final judgment when our Great Savior will appear as a Great Judge. "**Oh, let the evil of the wicked come to an end, and may you establish the righteous— you who test the minds and hearts, O righteous God! My shield is with God, who saves the upright in heart**" (9-11).

LIVING

Worshipfully ask God to save you and all his people from worldwide enemies, cultural enemies, and our greatest spiritual enemy, the devil.
