



## SERMON NOTES

June 5, 2016

Scripture: Psalm 137:1-9 (NAS)

Topic: "Difficult Truth to Understand"

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| 1 | By the rivers of Babylon, There we sat down and wept, When we remembered Zion.   |
| 2 | Upon the willows in the midst of it We hung our harps.   |
| 3 | For there our captors demanded of us songs, And our tormentors mirth, saying, "Sing us one of the songs of Zion."                        |
| 4 | How can we sing the LORD'S song In a foreign land?   |
| 5 | If I forget you, O Jerusalem, May my right hand forget her skill.  |
| 6 | May my tongue cling to the roof of my mouth If I do not remember you, If I do not exalt Jerusalem Above my chief joy.                    |
| 7 | Remember, O LORD, against the sons of Edom The day of Jerusalem, Who said, "Raze it, raze it To its very foundation."                    |
| 8 | O daughter of Babylon, you devastated one, How blessed will be the one who repays you With the recompense with which you have repaid us. |
| 9 | How blessed will be the one who seizes and dashes your little ones Against the rock.   |

### I. THE DIFFICULTY

- A. The Words Of Verse 9
- B. The Knowledge Of II Timothy 3:16-17 "All"
- C. Meaning Of Imprecatory—From The Word Imprecate—To Invoke Or Call Down Upon

### II. THE BASIS FOR IMPRECATORY PSALMS

- A. God Is A God Who Punishes Sin And Rewards Righteousness
  - 1. Failure to bring temporal judgment on horrific sins would ultimately be to condone it *II Thessalonians 1:6-8*
  - 2. Sometimes the accumulation of evil requires punishment in the temporal
  - 3. Temporal judgment may also be withheld to allow for grace *II Peter 3:9*
  - 4. God's promises to Abraham *Genesis 12:3*
  - 5. God's promises concerning Babylon *Jeremiah 51:56, 58*
- B. The Attitude Of The Psalmist
  - 1. Recognizes vengeance belongs to God *Deuteronomy 32:35*

- 2. No room for personal vengeance
- 3. Desire for God's righteous will be done *Matthew 5:17*

### C. The Harmony Of the OT And NT On Vengeance

- 1. OT vengeance is Mine
  - a. David
  - b. Joseph *Genesis 50:20*
  - c. The law of retribution *Exodus 24:20*
- 2. NT vengeance is Mine
  - a. Judicial punishment of the wicked *Romans 13:3, 4*
  - b. Love of enemies *II Corinthians 5:19, 20*
  - c. Judgment upon the wicked *John 3:18, 36*

### APPLICATION:

- 1. We Might See The Atrocities Of Sin With A Holy Horror
- 2. Reminder That God's People Are To Be Separate From The World
- 3. Reminder That By God's Grace We Can Withstand Persecution
- 4. We Need To Be Made More And More Aware Of Our Call To Righteousness