

# Psalm 55

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Study Questions February 21

The power to sit back and doing nothing in response to our pain goes beyond human power, it is *spiritual*. Our impulse says, "Hurt them as much or more than they hurt you." The world whispers, "You should get yours! You deserve restitution."

## Read Romans 12:19.

What instructions are we given concerning revenge? Who repays those who harm us?

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We crowd God out when we are stay close to the situation trying to exact our own revenge. In responding to our impulses, making no room for God, we align ourselves with the likes of Absalom and Ahithophel.

## A Shift of Allegiance

Ahithophel had been one David's top advisors but was coerced into conspiring with Absalom. He shifted his allegiance and quickly became any enemy to one who was once his friend.

Loyalty is a powerful thing. When the eyes of our allegiance are blurred by something other than God, trouble will follow. It is impossible to serve two masters (Lk. 16:13). In haste we take matters in our own hands rather than leaving them in the right ones.

## Wrong thinking

Wrong thinking leads to wrong doing and easily follows a shift in allegiance. In thinking we are "all that and bag of chips" our focus shifts to us rather than God and what we can do rather than what He *will* do. The discipline of waiting on His revenge is compromised by our response to our impulses.

## Read Psalm 147:6.

What does God do for the humble? What does He do to those who oppose them?

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In remembering who He is and who we are creates a place for victory and revenge, both in His perfect timing. We bear witness to His work and learn to trust Him more and more, battle after battle.

## Personal Reflection and Application

What has God revealed to me in this lesson? How will I respond?

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