

## Lesson 16 — A PRAYER FOR VENGEANCE — Psalm 109

1. Read Psalm 109. (a) How does David cry for vengeance toward his enemies compare with what the Lord said on the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 5:38-45? (B) How do you reconcile this?
2. (a) What was the punishment for a false witness according to the Mosaic Law in Deuteronomy 19:15-21? (b) How does this help you understand David's prayers for his enemies in Psalm 109?
3. Read 2 Kings 1. (a) What did Elijah desire for his enemies? (b) Did it happen? (c) How does this reconcile with what Jesus said in Luke 9:51-56?
4. David says in Psalm 109:2-3 that his enemies spoke wickedly, spoke lies, and spoke words of hatred about him. (a) In the following passages, who is speaking against David, and what are they saying? 1 Samuel 22:6-16, 2 Samuel 15:1-12, and 2 Samuel 16:8-14. (b) How do you think this would affect David? (c) How would it affect you?
5. (a) Who, in the following verses, sought to "persecute the poor and needy man, that he might even slay the broken in heart"? Psalm 109:16, 1 Samuel 18:10-11, 1 Samuel 19:1,10,11, 20:31, 23:8,14,25, 24:2, 2 Samuel 17:1-2. (b) What was David's response to these things according to 1 Samuel 26:1-20? (c) What does this teach you about David, the man after God's own heart? (d) What can you learn for your own life when you are persecuted?
6. (a) When you are being attacked by your enemies, what is usually your first response? (b) Is it godly? (c) What should be our response according to 1 Peter 2:21-23? (d) What are some other Biblical responses you could cling to when going through persecution?
7. In looking over Psalm 109, would you say that these are prayers we should pray for our enemies? Why or why not?
8. Write a prayer request for someone whom you sense is your enemy. Try to focus on a prayer request that is not vengeful but one that overcomes evil with good.