



## Psalm 82: ASKing for Judges

*Gathering all generations  
to pray for all nations  
ASKing God to do what only He can do  
and doing whatever He ASKs of us.*

*Use this psalm to ASK for  
Righteousness & Justice in the Judicial System*

**If you have not already worked through the Basic Lessons, also found under Teaching Resources, it is recommended you do so, in order to get the most out of this and the other teaching lessons.**

**Suggestion:** Suggestion: Read through the lesson and scriptures first, then take time to meditate. ASK the Holy Spirit to direct and give you understanding. Respond privately to God regarding what you received from the Word. This will seed the word in your own heart where it will grow. This is the lifechanging part of meditation.

**Group:** Take a brief time to share what each received, noting the verses. What is being emphasized? This is a prayer briefing, a brief time to share what each received, noting the verses. This helps to see what God is saying. It is an equipping time where you see the full prayer picture. What you receive is the basis for your prayers. Take time to pray through what each received, before going on to the next prayer point. Pray all that was received in meditation.

**Context:** This Psalm was written for the courts of justice as instruction.

**v1 “God stands in the congregation of the mighty. He judges among the gods.”** This is The God Elohim Who stations Himself in the midst of the earthly judges, here called elohim, little gods because they are given God like power over life and death. Mighty would ordinarily refer to God Almighty, but here it speaks of the congregation of the mighty, emphasizing again their God like position. He is judging them, their decisions. This verse is directed to judges reminding them of their position and responsibility, challenging them with the next question.

**v2 “How long will you judge unjustly, and show partiality to the wicked?” Selah.** Selah is a musical pause, these psalms were sung. Here, use it as a time to reflect on what God is saying. Speaking to the judges, God is reprimanding them, telling them to judge righteously. As all authority is from God, those in positions of power are accountable to represent Him with righteous judgments. This is a reminder to judge as God would judge, to judge unjustly is to misrepresent God in the decision, to judge according to one’s own bias or for gain.

**v3 “Defend the poor and fatherless; Do justice to the afflicted and needy.”**

**v4 “Deliver the poor and needy; free them from the hand of the wicked.”** These verses were written to corrupt judges challenging them; directing them to righteous judgments.

**v5 “They do not know, nor do they understand; they walk about in darkness; all the foundations of the earth are unstable.”** Without God’s counsel much damage is done. At present we see the constitutional foundation of our governments threatened as God’s laws are being challenged and changed in the courts, as legalizing abortion which destabilizes society by leading people into sin.

Because they judge unjustly, as taking away the right of the fatherless, those with no voice in abortion these judges walk in moral darkness without the light of God.

**v6” I said, ‘You are gods, and all of you children of the Most High,’** God calls them elohim, little gods, mighty ones given power to judge on earth for God Himself. Children of the Most High means they were created by God as we all are.

**v7 “But you shall die like men, and fall like one of the princes.”** You are not God and your rule is not eternal, you are accountable to God for your rulings.

**v8 “Arise, O God, judge the earth; for You shall inherit all nations.”** This is asking God to judge the unjust rulers and to give righteous judges in our court system. It is God who raises up men to positions of power and God who puts them down, Daniel 2:21.

**Other Scriptures as you are led.**

**Deuteronomy 16:19 “You shall not pervert justice. You shall not show partiality, and you shall not accept a bribe, for a bribe blinds the eyes of the wise and twists the words of the righteous.”**

**Deuteronomy 1:16-17 “And I charged your judges at that time, ‘Hear the cases between your brothers, and judge righteously between a man and his brother or the alien who is with him.’”**

**v17 “You shall not show partiality in judgment; you shall hear the small as well as the great; you shall not be afraid in any man’s presence, for the judgment is God’s.”**

**ASK for the fear of the LORD for judges, that they will judge for God and be accountable.**