DEVOTIONAL 7

MY GOD: FORGIVE ME AND SAVE MY SOUL!

PART 1

May the Lord bless you, my brothers and sisters. We place this day into the hands of the Creator, our heavenly Father. Let us pray.

Eternal Father, God of the armies of Israel,
You are the One who defends the cause of Your children,
And You defend them from all their enemies.
You are our shield, our fortress.
Lord, You guarded Your servants
And surrounded them with Your power,
So that they came out victorious in every battle.
Help us and strengthen us
In this final war against The Perverse,
Against death, so that we may receive Your eternal promises.
In the name of Jesus, amen.

Brothers and sisters, I invite you to worship freely with this powerful song, "The Destruction of Amalek".

The title of this devotional is: "Lord, Save Me from All Those Who Persecute Me, and Deliver Me!"

Brothers and sisters, let us read Psalm 7 together (NASB, New American Standard Bible):

A Shiggaion of David, which he sang to the Lord concerning Cush, a Benjaminite.

[1] O Lord my God, in You I have taken refuge;
Save me from all those who pursue me, and rescue me,
[2] Or he will tear my soul like a lion,
Dragging me away, while there is no one to rescue *me*.
[3] O Lord my God, if I have done this,
If there is injustice in my hands,
[4] If I have done evil to my friend,
Or have plundered my enemy for no reason,
[5] Let the enemy pursue my soul and overtake *it*;
And let him trample my life to the ground
And lay my glory in the dust. *Selah*
[6] Arise, Lord, in Your anger;
Raise Yourself against the rage of my enemies,
And stir Yourself for me; You have ordered judgment.
[7] Let the assembly of the peoples encompass You,
And return on high over it.
[8] The Lord judges the peoples;
Vindicate me, Lord, according to my righteousness and my integrity that is in me.
[9] Please let the evil of the wicked come to an end, but establish the righteous;

For the righteous God puts hearts and minds to the test.
[10] My shield is with God,
Who saves the upright in heart.
[11] God is a righteous judge,
And a God who shows indignation every day.
[12] If one does not repent, He will sharpen His sword;
He has bent His bow and taken aim.
[13] He has also prepared deadly weapons for Himself;
He makes His arrows fiery *shafts*.
[14] Behold, *an evil person* is pregnant with injustice,
And he conceives harm and gives birth to lies.
[15] He has dug a pit and hollowed it out,
And has fallen into the hole which he made.
[16] His harm will return on his own head,
And his violence will descend on the top of his own head.
[17] I will give thanks to the Lord according to His righteousness
And will sing praise to the name of the Lord Most High.

The title of Psalm 7 is: "A Meditation of David, which he sang to the LORD concerning the words of Cush, a Benjamite." This term "Meditation" is the singular form of the Hebrew word שִׁגָּיוֹן (shiggâyôn); it appears only twice in the Bible: in this psalm and in Habakkuk 3:1. In this prophetic book, it is used in its plural form: שִׁגְיֹנֹת׃ (Shigionoth).

Some have considered that this Hebrew word is related to musical instruction, implying that Psalm 7 and the prayer of the prophet Habakkuk are songs; and, because of their contents, they are related to the judgement of God.

If we compare the two texts, we can see several relationships. Let us first look at the content and message of Psalm 7, which could be interpreted as a personal prayer of David, for he says in verse 1:

[1] O Lord my God, in You I have taken refuge;
Save me from all those who pursue me, and rescue me…

Nevertheless, the scope of the psalm goes beyond a personal petition. David projects the imprecatory prayer towards the Lord's judgement upon the wicked. The psalmist describes how the wicked person acts from within his own being and the manifestations of his works.

Who are these wicked people? Let us read Psalm 7:11–16:

[11] God is a righteous judge,
And a God who shows indignation every day.
[12] If one does not repent, He will sharpen His sword;
He has bent His bow and taken aim.
[13] He has also prepared deadly weapons for Himself;
He makes His arrows fiery *shafts*.
[14] Behold, *an evil person* is pregnant with injustice,
And he conceives harm and gives birth to lies.
[15] He has dug a pit and hollowed it out,
And has fallen into the hole which he made.
[16] His harm will return on his own head,
And his violence will descend on the top of his own head.

Verse 7 is recalled by James when he speaks of temptation operating from within the body, when The Perverse, the old man, takes hold of the mind and all the members in order to fulfil his deceitful desires, which war against the soul (Eph. 4:22; 1 Pet. 2:11). Let us read James 1:13–15:

[13] Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone. [14] But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. [15] Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death.

In this passage, James describes the work of The Perverse, the flesh, sin, which was begotten in man when he sinned in Eden and received death, which, together with sin, entered all creation and all descendants, that is, humanity, which has multiplied until now (Rom. 3:23; Rom. 5:14-17).

What relationship does Psalm 7 have with this end time that we are living in?

Psalm 7 has a prophetic projection towards the end time about judgement, for in verse 6, David cries out for the Lord to arise in His anger and to awaken the judgement that He has commanded (Heb. צָוָה tsâvâh: to give an order, a command), which we can relate to the seven-year Tribulation, or Daniel's seventieth week.

In verses 12 and 13, this is reaffirmed, for David speaks of the sharpened sword, the bow made ready, the instruments of death, and the fiery arrows. God will apply this in His judgements: before the Rapture, He will use these weapons against the apostates who have been cut off in the judgement of forsakenness (cf. Rom. 11:20-22; Heb. 10:26-31; Rev. 2:23); after the Rapture, God will continue to apply His weapons in the judgement of the Tribulation.

The prophetic projection of the end time in Psalm 7 is also confirmed, as in verses 7 and 8, there is a reference to the Millennial Kingdom, for it speaks of the congregation of the peoples over whom the Lord will judge.

In Psalm 7:9, we also see a prophetic projection towards the Eternal Kingdom, for David's imprecatory petition is that the wickedness of the wicked should come to an end and that the righteous should be established.

Based on the evidence mentioned, we can apply to the apostates of the cut-off Church of the end time the words used by David, namely: those who pursue me (Ps. 7:1), the enemy (Ps. 7:5, 6), the wicked (Ps. 7:9), and the evil person (Ps. 7:11, 14). In contrast, we can apply the following terms to the holy Church: the righteous (Ps. 7:9) and the upright in heart (Ps. 7:10).

One piece of evidence for this comparison is verse 9 of Psalm 7: "… For the righteous God puts hearts and minds to the test." This action is precisely what the Lord will do in the judgement of sickness and death against the apostates, which is the execution of the sentence against Jezebel in Revelation 2:23: "I will kill her children with death, and all the churches shall know that I am He who searches the minds and hearts. And I will give to each one of you according to your Works;" this corresponds the instruments of death of Psalm 7:13.

Let us pray to the Lord:

Holy Father, Your judgements are unavoidable.
You have established them in Your Word;
They are Your commandments, which manifest Your excellent justice and holiness.
Today, we ask You to fulfil Your prophecies of judgement
So that You alone may be exalted.
Lord, show that You are the One who searches the minds and hearts.
God of glory, arise and judge the wicked, the apostates,
Who have trampled Jesus, the Son of God, underfoot,
Who have counted His precious blood as common,
And have insulted the Holy Spirit.
We ask You this in the name of Jesus.
AMEN and AMEN.

We can already see that the day of eternity is approaching (Hebrews 10:25); therefore, strive to be found by Christ without spot, blameless, and at peace (2 Peter 3:14). Maranatha!