

## Psalm 82

## That Ain't Right!

- <sup>1</sup> God presides in the great assembly;  
he gives judgment among the "gods":
- <sup>2</sup> "How long will you defend the unjust  
and show partiality to the wicked?  
Selah
- <sup>3</sup> Defend the cause of the weak and fatherless;  
maintain the rights of the poor and oppressed.
- <sup>4</sup> Rescue the weak and needy;  
deliver them from the hand of the wicked.
- <sup>5</sup> "They know nothing, they understand nothing.  
They walk about in darkness;  
all the foundations of the earth are shaken.
- <sup>6</sup> "I said, 'You are "gods";  
you are all sons of the Most High.'
- <sup>7</sup> But you will die like mere men;  
you will fall like every other ruler."
- <sup>8</sup> Rise up, O God, judge the earth,  
for all the nations are your inheritance.

KZ – Nursultan Nazarbaev = PRES for LIFE / LAW No Negative  
Thus, NO ENDLESS Political CAMPAIGNING! NO SATIRE!

USA – Film > UNKNOWN Alderman in DC becomes PRES.  
We know as CHRIS ROCK >> Political Slogan '*That Ain't right!*'

Speeches > Long list of Social Evils, Injustices, Corruption  
Everyone KNOWS – Nobody STOPS > "*That Ain't Right!*"

PSALMIST > God-fearing MUSICIAN ASAPH > Saw Evil 3000 yrs Ago  
Probably MUCH LIKE Evil TODAY > *'That Ain't Right!'*

NO Vote > Has a VOICE >> NOT Speaking Satire > but SCRIPTURE  
One of most strange and difficult Psalms

1. Rebellion of godless 2. Righteousness God Demands 3. Reign of God

### 1. Rebellion of godless

God asks EARTHLY RULERS 'how long'? ???

v. 2 "How long will you defend the unjust and show partiality to the wicked?"

CHARGE is given in form of QUESTION – Make them THINK

v. 1 ...he gives judgment among the "gods":

gods?? - Human RULERS with DIVINE APPOINTMENT to RULE

"Do not blaspheme God or curse the ruler of your people." Exodus 22.28

PARENTS in place of God over Children

RULERS in place of God over Citizens

// SWORN In with HAND on the BIBLE > GOD Consciousness

"...for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God." Romans 13.1

ECONOMY of KZ grew by 12% Last Year - Value of \$ dropped by 30%

GLUT of Dollars - Gain 1.5 BILLION Each Month in OIL REVENUES

FRIEND works for NEW INVESTMENT co. Opened Last Year  
\$10 Million PROFIT their FIRST YEAR

Popul. about 15 MILLION > Where is \$ from NATION'S RESOURCES?

BENEFIT to ALL - Right!?! NEW SCHOOLS, HOSPITALS > NONE!

SMALL HOMES of Urban Poor - Condemned and Bulldozed by GOV'T  
Get FRACTION of REAL VALUE - PALACIAL HIGH RISES of RICH

Streets CONGESTED with LUXURY CARS and SUV's

NATIONAL RESOURCES are PERSONAL PROPERTY of ELITE

Couple Months before LAST YEAR'S Presidential Election -  
Popular, Leading OPPOSITION Candidate - COMMITTED SUICIDE >  
Guy was REALLY BAD SHOT! 2 in HEAD and 3 TIMES in CHEST!!

AVG Timur, Boris, Katya, and Natasha - FEEL POWERLESS in KZ >  
They QUIETLY Say in Kazakh or Russian '*That Ain't right!*'

v. 2 "How long will you defend the unjust and show partiality to the wicked?"

## 2. Righteousness God Demands

Contrast between JUST God and UNJUST Judges

v. 3,4 Way it SHOULD BE > Defend the cause of the weak and fatherless;  
maintain the rights of the poor and oppressed. Rescue the weak and needy;  
deliver them from the hand of the wicked.

Something COWARDLY about taking ADVANTAGE of the WEAK

These verses, indeed the whole psalm, every prince should have painted on the wall of his chamber, on his bed, over his table, and on his garments. For here they find what lofty, princely, noble virtues their estate can practice, that temporal government, next to the preaching office, is the highest service to God and the most useful on earth. Martin Luther

Something NOBLE about CHAMPIONING the CAUSE of POOR

The LORD watches over the alien and sustains the fatherless and the widow, but he frustrates the ways of the wicked. Psalm 146.9

NO PERSONAL Gospel > Good News for ALL PEOPLE, EARTH, SOCIETY, WORLD > GOSPEL as BIG as GOD and HIS WORLD

v. 5 "They know nothing, they understand nothing. They walk about in darkness; all the foundations of the earth are shaken.

KZ - No God consciousness > 70 Years of SOVIET ATHEISM Worked THERE IS NO GOD > even RELIGIOUS are PRACTICAL ATHEISTS

60% Kazakh > MUSLIM > Few Pray, Few Fast, Most Drink Alcohol  
30% Russian > ORTHOD > Sacrifice to Cathedral on Easter...maybe

Justice is far from us, and righteousness does not reach us. We look for light, but all is darkness; for brightness, but we walk in deep shadows.  
Isaiah 59.9

INJUSTICE is always CONSEQUENCE when people FORGET God and DENY that all people are made in IMAGE of God > LOVE Him & Others

Jesus: "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." John 8.12

Jesus is LIGHT > NO Jesus = NO LIGHT

v. 6,7 "I said, 'You are "gods"; you are all sons of the Most High.' But you will die like mere men; you will fall like every other ruler."

People of HIGHEST Stature - SHOULD KNOW BETTER

Jesus: "...he called them 'gods,' to whom the word of God came"  
John 10.35

Entrusted w/ God's WORD to do God's WORK

RULERS may be LIKE GOD to Men, but GOD IS GOD to THEM  
Will die in the COMMON LOT of men – MOST BASE Form

HOMELESS Man BATHING in Hotel Restroom on WILSHIRE Blvd  
'You are just ONE PAY CHECK ahead of Me!'

Their DIVINE OFFICE will not PROTECT THEM  
No Matter how GOD-LIKE they ACT – they will DIE like MEN

DIGNITY shall not prevent their DOOM

### 3. Reign of God

ASAPH Yearns for JUSTICE > God's HOLY INTERVENTION

He believes the LION of JUDAH will RISE UP with a ROAR!  
Judge SITS while HEARING Case > STANDS to give SENTENCE

v. 8 Rise up, O God, judge the earth, for all the nations are your inheritance.

Paul: "For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to all men by raising him from the dead."  
Acts 17.31

RIGHTEOUS JUDGE TAKEN His STAND > He is SOON to ACT

Asaph Sees BEYOND the TROUBLES of Earth to THRONE in Heaven

PSALM Written from PERSPECTIVE of FAITH -

v. 1 God presides in the great assembly; he gives judgment among the "gods"

SCENE of JUDGEMENT brings CLARITY to CONFUSED Times

HARD VISION – Sees God Enthroned > SOVEREIGN over ALL  
Esp. when SUFFERING PAINS of INJUSTICE – Where is God?

OR – Many WONDER – More BASIC Questions > IS there a God?

Micaiah: "I saw the LORD sitting on his throne with all the host of heaven standing around him on his right and on his left." 1 Kings 22.19

Enoch: "See, the Lord is coming with thousands upon thousands of his holy ones to judge everyone..." Jude 14,15

APOSTLE JOHN > EXILED on PATMOS > Saw Beyond...  
Seven Small Churches STRUGGLING in this HOSTILE WORLD

John: "...before me was a throne in heaven with someone sitting on it." Revelation 4.2

SOMEONE ---- NOT Caesar but CHRIST > GLORIOUS LAMB

SEE into DIVINE THRONEROOM / COURT ROOM Hope, Confidence

Vision to SEE LIFE with CONFIDENCE of ABRAHAM –  
Abraham: "Will not the Judge of all the earth do right?" Genesis 18.25

JUDGE'S SON > THE Son of God will come forth and DO JUSTICE

He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David. Luke 1.32

BEFORE Great and Terrible Day of the LORD > Season of MERCY

The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance. 2 Peter 3.9

Patience of God OPPORTUNITY for SALVATION -  
NOT as TOLERATION of INJUSTICE > Find JUSTICE in CHRIST

ENORMITY of WRATH -- Will be DISPLAYED at End of ESCHATON

SEE What God's WRATH against SIN does to His OWN SON on CROSS  
SHUDDER to THINK what will HAPPEN to You > His ENEMY

Why in KZ? > AWESOME JUDGE is a LOVING GOD

Only Tragic but Wonderful Story > until you

Still Thrilled by News FIRST Heard at Crescenta-Canada YMCA Camp in  
1972 - 'Jesus LOVES Me!' > Receive Jesus Christ as Savior & Lord

ALREADY Displayed > BELOVED Son > Bore MY SIN'S PENALTY  
My SOVEREIGN has become my SAVIOR > GRACE Satisfied JUSTICE

WORLD > That AIN'T RIGHT God's World & He will MAKE it RIGHT

We sing this song of Zion in His ears, urging Him to come quickly; and we sing it to one another in joyful hope, while the foundations of the earth seem out of course, because here we find Messiah the true Judge of a misgoverned world. Andrew Bonar

HOPE > HEAR the MUSIC of HEAVEN Now!

FAITH > DANCE to that MUSIC HERE and NOW! \*\*\*\*\*