1 Do you indeed speak justly, you mighty? Do you rule the peoples with equity?

2 With unjust heart you act throughout the land; your hands mete out violence.

3 The wicked are estranged, even from the womb; those who speak falsehood go astray from their birth.

4 They are as venomous as a serpent; they are like the deaf adder which stops its ears,

5 Which does not heed the voice of the charmers, and is deaf to the skilful weaver of spells.

6 Break, O God, their teeth in their mouths; smash the fangs of these lions, O Lord.

7 Let them vanish like water that runs away; let them wither like trodden grass.

8 Let them be as the slimy track of the snail; like the untimely birth that never sees the sun.

9 Before ever their pots feel the heat of the thorns, green or blazing, let them be swept away.

10 The righteous will be glad when they see God's vengeance; they will bathe their feet in the blood of the wicked.

11 So that people will say,
Truly, there is a harvest for the righteous; truly, there is a God who judges in the earth.

Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England, material from which is included here, is copyright © The Archbishops' Council 2000 and published by Church House Publishing.

Related Resources

Texts and Resources for A Service of the Word

Main Volume

Common Worship: Main Volume is available from Church House Publishing.

Download the Reflections on the Psalms app

Source URL: https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/worship-texts-and-resources/common-worship/common-material/psalter/psalm-58