**In Times of Trouble**

**Psalm 10: 12-18**

 **12**Rise up, O Lord; O God, lift up your hand; do not forget the **oppressed**. **13**Why do the wicked renounce God and say in their hearts, “You will not call us to account”? **14**But you do see! Indeed, you note trouble and **grief**, that you may take it into your hands; the helpless commit themselves to you; you have been the helper of the **orphan**. **15**Break the arm of the **wicked** and**evildoers**; seek out their wickedness until you find none. **16**The Lord is king forever and ever; the nations shall **perish** from his land.  **17**O Lord, you will hear the desire of the **meek**; you will strengthen their heart; you will**incline your ear** **18**to do justice for the orphan and the oppressed, so that those from earth may strike **terror** no more.

 **I. Terms to Know**

**oppressed** - those who are being unjustly treated, abused, or taken advantage of by powerful individuals.

**grief** - the suffering and distress experienced by the helpless and oppressed.

**orphan** - a person who is "fatherless" or lacking a protector, signifying someone vulnerable and in need of help.

**wicked** - people who do very bad things, not caring about God's rules, and acting like they are above everyone else.

**evildoers** - people who do bad things on purpose.

**perish** - to be completely destroyed or ruined.

**meek** - someone who is humble, gentle, and doesn't try to be powerful or bossy.

**incline your ear** - a prayer to God, a plea for recognition, for acknowledgement.

**terror** - the feeling of extreme fear and worry.

**II. Summary**

**Psalm 10:12–18 is a prayer for God to intervene on behalf of the oppressed and helpless, and to avenge those harmed by the wicked:**

* **A cry for justice: The psalmist asks God to act and to not forget the troubles of the afflicted.**
* **A declaration of faith: The psalmist expresses confidence that God will hear the cries of the oppressed and end the persecution of the wicked.**
* **A reminder of God's presence: The passage reminds us that God sees, hears, and acts, even in the darkest times.**

**III. Questions**

**1. What did the Psalmist ask the Lord to do?**

**2. What did the poor do?**

**3. What did the Psalmist ask the Lord to do to the wicked?**

**4. What will happen to the heathen?**

**5. How did the Psalmist conclude his petition?**