

Bible Study  
Psalm 10  
**God is Omnipresent**

**Contrast between Psalm 9 and 10**

<u><b>Psalm 9</b></u>	<u><b>Psalm 10</b></u>
Started with Praise	Begins with Despair
Divine Justice	Injustice

**Questioning God (verse 1):**

**1 Why, Lord, do you stand far off? Why do you hide yourself in times of trouble?**

- The psalmist felt that God was far off and did even hide in times of trouble.
- The wicked are marching through the land, but the Lord seems to be distant and unconcerned.

**Several answers to the question of verse 1:**

- **Proverbs 15:3** “The eyes of the LORD are in every place, watching the evil and the good”.
- **Jeremiah 23:23 – 24** “Am I a God who is near,” declares the LORD, “And not a God far off? “Can a man hide himself in hiding places so I do not see him?” declares the LORD “Do I not fill the heavens and the earth?” declares the LORD.
- **Matthew 18:20** “For where two or three have gathered together in My name, I am there in their midst.”
- **Psalm 139:7 – 10 NIV** 7Where can I go from Your Spirit? Where can I flee from Your presence? 8 If I go up to the heavens, You are there; if I make my bed in the depths, behold, You are there. 9 If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, 10 even there Your hand will guide me, Your right hand will hold of me fast.

**God is Omnipresent!**

**Rejecting God (verses 2-13):**

The psalmist now describes these wicked people, what they do, and why they do it. He gives four (4) statements that express what they believe, because what they believe determines how they behave.

**Trusting God (verses 14-18):**

As the psalm draws to a close, the writer expresses his full confidence that God is on His throne and has everything under His control. The Lord answers all four of the statements of the wicked that are quoted in verses 2-13.

<b><u>Rejecting God – wicked statements</u></b>	<b><u>Trusting God – God’s answers</u></b>
There is no God (verses 2-4)	God is King (verse 16)
I shall not be moved (verses 5-7)	God defends His own people (verses 17-18)
God does not see me (verses 8-11)	God sees what is going on (verse 14)
God will not judge me (verses 12-13)	God judges sin (verse 15)

## **Psalm 10:2-4**

**2** In his arrogance the wicked man hunts down the weak, who are caught in the schemes he devises.

**3** He boasts about the cravings of his heart; he blesses the greedy and reviles the Lord.

**4** In his pride the wicked man does not seek him; in all his thoughts there is no room for God.

This is describing a person who is so caught up in himself that he does not realize a need for God.

### **Statement #1 “There is no God” (verses 2-4).**

Believing this lie frees the wicked to do whatever they please, for they become their own god.

Review Genesis 3:5 and 6:5 for examples of people believing they can be god.

- **PRIDE (verses 2-4)**

Pride goes before a fall. This person's pride will keep him from humbling himself to receive the Lord.

### **Response to Statement #1 God is King (verse 16).**

**<sup>16</sup>The Lord is King forever and ever; the nations will perish from his land.**

The wicked claim that there is no God (verses 2-4), but the truth is that God *is* and *He rules over all!*

**God is Omnipresent!**

## **Psalm 10:5-7**

**<sup>5</sup> His ways are always prosperous; your laws are rejected by him; he sneers at all his enemies.**

**Verse 5** - This person is living in the here and now with no preparation for life after death. He never once considers that there is a day of judgement coming, when he will stand before the judge of all the earth.

**<sup>6</sup> He says to himself, “Nothing will ever shake me.” He swears, “No one will ever do me harm.”**

**Verse 6** - The wicked person, who has been successful in this world, thinks his success will continue. He is like the man who says, you make your own breaks. He believes hard times will never come his way, because he thinks he is so great. His life is totally centered on self.

**<sup>7</sup> His mouth is full of lies and threats; trouble and evil are under his tongue.**

**Verse 7** - This is a man who is evil to the core of his being. The following two verses pretty well cover what Jesus taught about evil men speaking evil:

### **Matthew 15:18-19 NLT**

<sup>18</sup> But the words you speak come from the heart—that’s what defiles you. <sup>19</sup> For from the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, all sexual immorality, theft, lying, and slander.

### **Statement #2 “I shall not be moved” (verses 5-7).**

This arrogant attitude comes from an ignorance of the laws of God, because unconverted people have no understanding of the Word of God or the ways of God (1 Corinthians 2:10-16).

- **Because God is longsuffering, they think they are getting away with their sins** (Ecclesiastes 8:11). <sup>11</sup> When the sentence for a crime is not quickly carried out, people’s hearts are filled with schemes to do wrong (NIV).
- **Telling lies and swearing oaths they have no plans to keep, they escape the penalties of the law and pursue their devious ways.** Like people savoring tasty food, they keep lies under their tongues and enjoy them (Proverbs 4:17). “They eat the bread of wickedness and drink the wine of violence” (NIV).

**Response to Statement #2 *God defends His own people (verses 17-18).***

**<sup>17</sup> You, Lord, hear the desire of the afflicted; you encourage them, and you listen to their cry, <sup>18</sup> defending the fatherless and the oppressed, so that mere earthly mortals will never again strike terror.**

- The wicked boast that they will not be moved (verses 5-7), but God has other plans for them.
- God hears the prayers of the persecuted, He sees their plight, He strengthens their hearts for whatever trials He permits (Romans 8:28), “And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose” (NIV).
- He eventually judges those who abuse them.

## **Psalm 10:8-11**

**<sup>8</sup> He lies in wait near the villages; from ambush he murders the innocent. His eyes watch in secret for his victims;**

**Verse 8** - Most of the dealings of this kind of man cannot take place out in the open. He must hide his evil deeds. He does this in the secret places, so he will not be found out.

**<sup>9</sup> like a lion in cover he lies in wait. He lies in wait to catch the helpless; he catches the helpless and drags them off in his net. <sup>10</sup> His victims are crushed, they collapse; they fall under his strength.**

**Verses 9 and 10** - Just as a lion gives no warning when he attacks his prey, this evil one attacks them unexpectedly. He does not play fair. He pretends to be one of them and when they believe him, he destroys them.

**<sup>11</sup> He says to himself, “God will never notice; he covers his face and never sees.”**

**Verse 11** - We may hide our sin from the authorities here on the earth, but there is no hiding from God.

## **Statement #3 “God does not see me” (verses 8-11).**

Like ferocious lions, wicked people hide and watch for opportunities to pounce on the helpless prey, and like hunters or fishermen, they catch their prey in their nets. They are sure that the law will not catch up with them or the Lord notice what they do. The lion is often used as a picture of ruthless sinners who attack others (17:12).

## **Response to Statement #3 God sees what is going on (verse 14).**

**<sup>14</sup> But you, God, see the trouble of the afflicted; you consider their grief and take it in hand. The victims commit themselves to you; you are the helper of the fatherless.**

This answers the claim in verses 8-11 that the Lord pays no attention to what the wicked are doing. Even more, God sees the trouble and grief caused by the wicked as they persecute the helpless, and He will take the matter in hand. The poor and needy can safely commit themselves into the hands of the Lord (1 Peter 5:7) **“Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about you”**.

## **Psalm 10:12-13**

**<sup>12</sup> Arise, Lord! Lift up your hand, O God. Do not forget the helpless.**

**Verse 12** - He has been describing the ways of the evil person in his dealings with the weak and poor of the earth. Now, he is saying; ‘Lord help those who cannot help themselves’.

**<sup>13</sup> Why does the wicked man revile God? Why does he say to himself, “He won’t call me to account”?**

**Verse 13:** The wicked cannot condemn God. This seems to be happening in our society today. All things pertaining to God and His holy ways are trying to be struck down by worldly courts.

### **Statement #4 God will not judge me (verses 12-13).**

The wicked boast that God will not investigate their sins or judge them, but God says, “Be sure your sin will find you out” (Numbers 32:23).

### **Response to Statement #4 God judges sin (verse 15).**

**<sup>15</sup> Break the arm of the wicked man; call the evildoer to account for his wickedness that would not otherwise be found out.**

The psalmist prays that the Lord will carefully investigate each sinner’s life and works, until every evil deed is exposed and judged.

<b><u>Rejecting God</u></b>	<b><u>Trusting God</u></b>
There is no God (verses 2-4)	God is King (verse 16)
I shall not be moved (verses 5-7)	God defends His own people (verses 17-18)
God does not see me (verses 8-11)	God sees what is going on (verse 14)
God will not judge me (verses 12-13)	God judges sin (verse 15)

**God is Omnipresent!**