

A Psalm of Communal Lament

You hear the prayers of Your people, O God, and respond with justice, mercy, and love. Please answer our prayer, O Sovereign Lord, and come to us quickly for our great city lies in ruins.

Our great city is ablaze, its walls have crumbled, and there is great despair among Your people. Our leaders have failed us, and our glory has left; our city is tired and hopeless. Your servants are weary as futility has found a home.

Our city is full of evil, O Lord, it moans day and night as the enemy has his way. Wickedness surrounds the righteous in our streets, and it works to steal our hope.

Our city has lost its light, O Lord, we are in a dark time of injustice and evil. The chains of poverty bind our people preventing the fullness You have planned for them. The vulnerable in our neighborhoods are abused and neglected beyond our comprehension. Orphans and aliens are desperate for love and justice, and the hungry and homeless are numb and despondent.

We have lost our way, O Lord, and we return to You now, as we see our errors. Our pride has gotten the best of us; please forgive our rebellion and our foolishness. We fervently pray to You, O Lord, to strike down the enemy as he comes to us with trickery and deceit. He is no match for You; prevent his lies from ensnaring us. Send Your angels to protect us from the enemy and his minions.

Bring a movement into our city, O Lord, of unity, compassion, and obedience. Use us to show the people of our city that You are the great "I Am." Let Your will be done in our city as in heaven. Guide our thoughts, words, feelings, and actions for Your glory, and strengthen our resolve. Shower Your people with the peace that only comes from You, our Prince of Peace.

Pour Your love and grace into our city, Dear Lord. May Your shalom dwell here for generations to come. May our city be, for all time, famous for Your glory. Amen and Amen.