

Psalm 58

*To the maestro:
Tune: Do not Destroy
A song of gold
that David wrote*

This righteousness of which you speak today
Is it a silent, secret kind of way?
Do you treat humankind with equity?
[Do you speak truth in all you have to say?]

No, in your heart you devise evil plans,
And with your hands you deal out violence:
For wicked men are loathsome from the womb,
They go astray from birth and speak out lies!

Their venom is like venom from a snake,
Like a deaf adder, that has blocked its ears,
Which does not hear what the snake-charmer says -
Those who are skilled in weaving evil spells!

O God, now smash their teeth within their mouth:
Break off the lion's fangs, O LORD, we pray,
And let them be like water that is spilt,
And let them shoot their arrows like the weak.

Let them be like a slug that melts to slime,
A still-born child that never sees the sun:
Before your pots can feel the oven's heat
May they be swept away as in a storm!

The righteous will rejoice when vict'ry comes:
He'll wash his feet in wicked people's blood:
And folk will say: "The righteous have reward:
There is a God Who governs all the earth!"

Versified by Dr J.W.McMillan, 2 Roger Rd, Morphett Vale, SA, AUSTRALIA 5162