

# EMMAUS



church community

07.16.2017 Season: Pentecost Sunday gathering #641

series: Common Prayers, part 6: *Slay the Wicked*  
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## That's Not Right

### Examples of Prayers of Retribution

"Repay them for their deeds and for their evil work; repay them for what their hands have done and bring back upon them what they deserve."

- David, Psalm 28:4

"May all who want to take my life be put to shame and confusion; may all who desire my ruin be turned back in disgrace."

- David, Psalm 40:14

"...pay back to the proud what they deserve." - David, Psalm 94:2

"Let him be found guilty... May his days be few...May his children be wandering beggars..."

- Asaph, Psalm 109:7-10

## What's This About?

### Three Ways to Respond

1.

because:  
because:  
because:

2.

remembering:

3.

who \_\_\_\_\_

and \_\_\_\_\_.

### **Respond: go deeper.**

- . How do you feel about the fact that prayers of retribution are found throughout the Bible?
- . How comfortable are you with praying these kinds of prayers?
- . Have you ever been the victim of injustice? What impact did that experience have on the way you prayed?
- . Even though scripture is full of prayers of retribution, Jesus prays *for*, not *against*, his persecutors. How do you respond to that?

**idea:** Consider this quote this week as you face injustice:

"The present age is not a time for rest and sleep, but it is a struggle, a combat, a market, a school, a voyage. Therefore you must exert yourself, and not be downcast and idle, but devote yourself to holy action." - Starets Nazarii of Valamo (17<sup>th</sup> cent.)