

# PSALM 82 vs 1

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This is the 11<sup>th</sup> of the 12 Psalms ascribed to Asaph, bearing this seer's name. In 2 Chronicles 29:30, Hezekiah ordered the Levites "to sing the words of David and of Asaph the seer" ... evidence the Spirit of God continues inspiring others to consider the ways of the Lord.

Divisions: this Psalm is similar to Psalm 58; that some say this poetically speaks of limited earthly justice – possibly; but this Psalm speaks clearly of God and His creation; in heaven and on earth; what role the citizens of eternity play is unknown. The Psalm is a whole and needs no formal division – Charles Spurgeon.



**A Psalm of Asaph,**

**<sup>1</sup> Gods stand in the congregation of the Mighty; among the Gods, He judges.**

Elohim stand in the congregation of El; among the Elohim, He judges;

**<sup>2</sup> How long will you judge unjustly, and the criminal, you lift up?**

**Selah**, pause, and think about it: the word translated gods = Elohim, it is a plural word; under the Most High, they are those who created heaven and earth; to speak of God or gods; it is the office of the One or ones doing good; His good we know; and we also know about this office: 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of heaven fell, swept away by some pathetic musician. This Psalm seems as if El (God) the fearless good One, steps in the middle of this very large mixed gathering, and approaches a bunch of thugs assembled; like fearlessly walking into a gang of hoodlums in South Central; and He puts all these rebellious justices, who are more likely just asses; needing to be put in their place. As in heaven, so on earth; if His justice is severe in heaven, do we foolishly imagine on earth He lowers His expectation? No title or position will save the negligent. Notice, this is not about the Lord of glory who will judge creation.

As in heaven, so on earth,

**<sup>3</sup> Defend the poor and the orphan: to the afflicted and needy do justice.**

**<sup>4</sup> Deliver the weak and needy: from the hand of the criminal, deliver.**

**<sup>5</sup> They do not know, nor do they understand; walking in darkness: the foundation of earth is unstable.**

**<sup>6</sup> I said, You are Elohim / citizens of eternity;**

**and children of the Most High you all are;**

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**<sup>7</sup>surely, like men you will die, and like one of the princes you will fall** / so these gods, citizens of eternity -- these Elohim the Most High is addressing, they didn't fulfill their good office, and bet on the wrong chieftain; and I'd imagine Asaph would say, it doesn't take rocket science to figure out who the one chief fool is that they followed, who fell.

**<sup>8</sup>Arise, O Elohim, govern the earth: for You will inherit all the nations** / so the Most High, having addressed the rebels, identifying the fools among them and raining on their parade, says to the 2/3<sup>rd</sup> citizens gathering, **let's get back to work.**

When the dispensers of law have dispensed with justice, settlements are unsettled; society is unhinged, and the whole fabric of the nation is shaken. When injustice is committed in due course of law, the world is indeed out of course. When "Justice" becomes a by-word, **it is time that justice dealt with justices**, when day after day, **their judgments show they have no judgment.** – Charles Spurgeon.

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