

Psalms of

IMPRECAATION



To *“imprecate”* in Scripture means to call down or invoke judgment, curses, or punishment *Often by God* upon someone or something, typically in response to injustice, evil, or oppression.

When I'm crushed by *injustices*
I find *comfort* at God's throne.

Psalm 69:1-4 NIV

Save me, O God,
for the waters have come up to my neck.
² I sink in the miry depths,
where there is no foothold.
I have come into the deep waters;
the floods engulf me.
³ I am worn out calling for help;
my throat is parched.
My eyes fail,
looking for my God.

⁴ Those who hate me without reason
outnumber the hairs of my head;
many are my enemies without cause,
those who seek to destroy me.
I am forced to restore
what I did not steal.

You, God, know my folly;
my guilt is not hidden from you.

Psalm 69:5 NIV

Psalm 69:7-9, 12 NIV

For I endure scorn for your sake,
and shame covers my face.

⁸ I am a foreigner to my own family,
a stranger to my own mother's children;

⁹ for zeal for your house consumes me,
and the insults of those who insult you
fall on me.

¹² Those who sit at the gate mock me,
and I am the song of the drunkards.

Imprecation

call for curse or judgment

Psalm 69:22; 24-25; 28 NIV

May the table set before them become a snare;
may it become retribution and a trap.

²⁴ Pour out your wrath on them;
let your fierce anger overtake them.

²⁵ May their place be deserted;
let there be no one to dwell in their tents.

²⁸ May they be blotted out of the book of life...

Happy is the one who seizes your infants
and dashes them against the rocks.

Psalm 137:9 ^{NIV}

OLD TESTAMENT SYSTEM

Psalm 69:22, 24-25, 28 ^{NIV}

May the table set before them become a snare;
may it become retribution and a trap.

²⁴ Pour out your wrath on them;
let your fierce anger overtake them.

²⁵ May their place be deserted;
let there be no one to dwell in their tents.

²⁸ May they be blotted out of the book of life
and not be listed with the righteous.

NEW TESTAMENT SYSTEM

John 13:34 ^{NIV}

“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.”

Matthew 6:12 ^{NIV}

“And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.”

Luke 6:37 ^{NIV}

“Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven.”

Ephesians 4:32 ^{NIV}

Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

Two Ways We Can Respond in Our Pain

ISOLATION

← Distance →

CONSOLATION

→ Connected ←

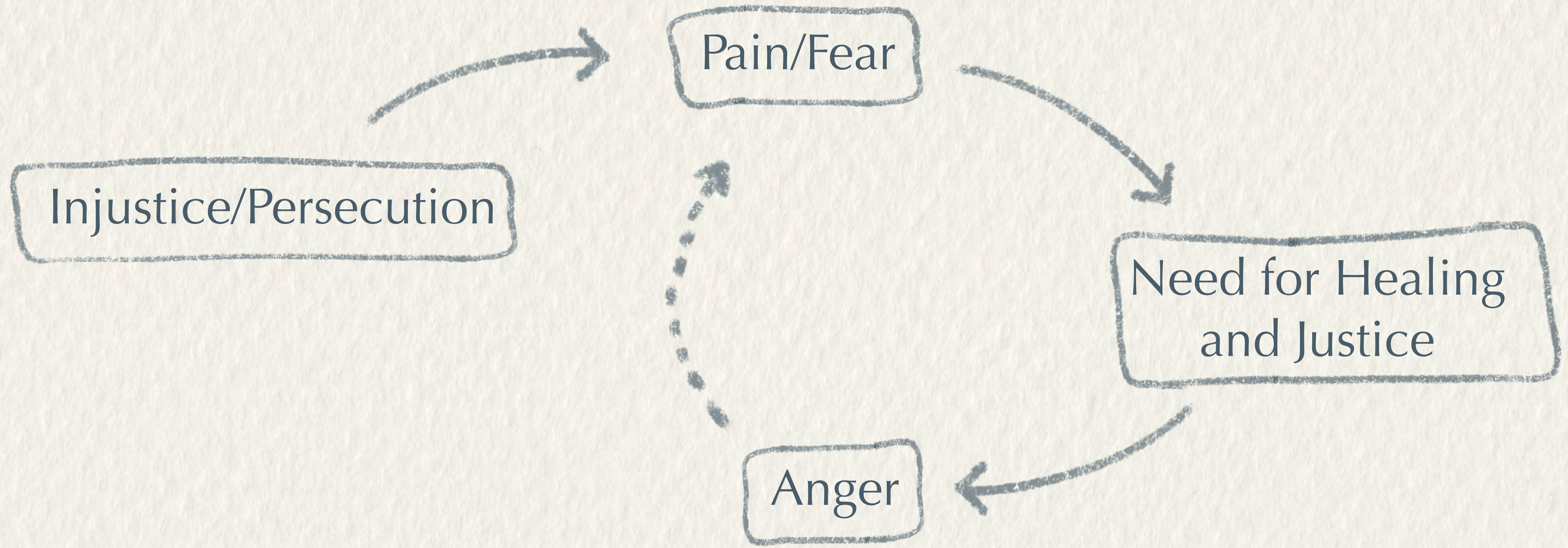
When I'm crushed by *injustices*
I find *comfort* at God's throne.

Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil;
cling to what is good.

Romans 12:9 ^{NIV}

Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord.

Romans 12:19 NIV



...because human anger does not produce
the righteousness that God desires.

James 1:20 ^{NIV}

A bruised reed he will not break,
and a smoldering wick he will not snuff out,
till he has brought justice through to victory.

Matthew 12:20 ^{NIV}

Psalm 69:30-36 NIV

I will praise God's name in song
and glorify him with thanksgiving.

³¹ This will please the LORD more than an ox,
more than a bull with its horns and hooves.

³² The poor will see and be glad—
you who seek God, may your hearts live!

³³ The LORD hears the needy
and does not despise his captive people.

³⁴ Let heaven and earth praise him,
the seas and all that move in them,

³⁵ for God will save Zion
and rebuild the cities of Judah.

Then people will settle there and possess it;
³⁶ the children of his servants will inherit it,
and those who love his name will dwell there.

When I'm crushed by *injustices*
I find *comfort* at God's throne.