

O Do Not Fret Because of Evildoers

PSALM 37 - Genevan Psalter

CAPO III - Dorian

Am Em Bm Em

1. O do not fret be - cause of e - vil - do - ers
 2. The Lord will grant your heart's de - sire as fa - vour
 3. Rest in the Lord with pa - tient ex - pec - ta - tion,
 4. Those hop - ing in the Lord for vin - di - ca - tion

Am Em Bm Em

or en - vy those whose wick - ed deeds you see.
 when you make him your joy and your de - light.
 and when the wick - ed pros - per in their way,
 will as their her - it - age pos - sess the land.

Am/E C G E Am

They'll fade like grass and lose their wealth and pow - er;
 Com - mit your way to him. The Lord will ev - er
 do not be en - vious of their wealth and sta - tion.
 But e - vil - do - ers, to their con - ster - na - tion,

Am/C Em Bm Em

they like green plants will with - er pres - ent - ly.
 let vin - di - ca - tion dawn for the up - right.
 Let an - ger nev - er in your heart hold sway
 will be cut off by God's al - might - y hand.

C Am F G C

Do good and trust in God, your rock and tow - er;
 He rich - ly will re - ward your just en - deav - our;
 and do not be em - bit - tered by vex - a - tion.
 Soon you will see their for - mer hab - i - ta - tion

Am Dm C D/A E Am

dwel in the land, en - joy se - cu - ri - ty.
 your cause will like the noon - day sun shine bright.
 It on - ly leads to trou - ble and dis - may.
 laid waste, re - duced to noth - ing in the end.

Tune: Louis Bourgeois - Lyon, 1547; Arr. Tim Nijenhuis, © 2020

Lyrics: 1972, Dewey Westra; 1980/2008, William Helder - © 2009, Standing Committee of the Book of Praise

Meter: 11.10.11.10.11.10

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5. Malicious witnesses arise;
they question me and utter lies.
With evil they for good repay me.
I am perplexed. They seek to slay me.
Yet I was grieved when they were sick;
their sorrows hurt me to the quick.
I went in sackcloth and would fast;
I bowed in prayer, my eyes downcast.
6. My heart was sad as for a friend;
I mourned, my mantle I would rend
as one who sorrows for a brother
and who with grief laments his mother.
But when I stumbled, they rejoiced;
gathering around, their hate they voiced,
and wretches whom I did not know
mocked me and gloried in my woe.
7. Unceasingly they scoff and jeer;
they gnash their teeth at me and sneer.
O LORD, how long yet will this rabble
abuse me with their godless babble?
O from these lions rescue me!
Then, praising you who set me free,
I'll in the great assembly bless
your mercy and your faithfulness.
8. Let enemies who scheme and lie
not smirk at me and wink the eye,
for without reason they accuse me.
Those who so wrong fully abuse me
do not speak peace, for they intend
to harm the quiet in the land.
I hear those loudmouths falsely claim:
"We've seen that you have cause for shame."
9. LORD, you have heard and seen this all;
do not be silent as I call,
nor stand aloof, O my Defender!
Wake up, arise, and justice render!
Contend for me, my God and Lord,
and give my foes their due reward.
O LORD my God, grant me redress
according to your righteousness.
10. Let them not say, "Yes, we have won.
We've swallowed him; he is undone!"
Those who against me are assembled
be shamed, by their confusion humbled,
and let all victory be denied
to those puffed up with boasting pride.
Let all who gloat at my expense
be clothed with shame as recompense.
11. May those rejoice with shout and song
who for my vindication long,
and may they praise with happy voices
the LORD, who in my good rejoices.
Let them repeat how great he is
and laud his perfect righteousness.
Then my tongue, too, with word and song
will praise his justice all day long.