

"GOD JUDGING HIS PEOPLE"**Introduction**

1. The "Song of Moses" here
2. Prophecy of things in the future
3. The principles apply to us still

1. THE REASON WHY CHURCHES DECLINE

- 1) The first picture: God's rich grace:
 - (i) v.7-10: God's electing love
 - (ii) v.11-14: gracious dealings**OBSERVE**: True of OT and NT church
- 2) The second picture: rebellion
 - (i) v.15-16: pride, worldliness, ingratitude
 - (ii) v.17-18: changed religion**OBSERVE**: See the alteration! How great!
APPLICATION: Do we appreciate it?

2. EVEN IN DECLENSION THERE IS HOPE

- 1) God's attitude at first:
 - (i) v.19-20: offended love is jealous
 - (ii) v.21-26: all manner of evils**OBSERVE**: It is a terrible thing to provoke God
- 2) God's attitude next:
 - (i) v.27: a new dimension – change
 - (ii) v.30-31: the root cause of our trouble**OBSERVE**: God has brought this about
- 3) All false religion is deadly:
 - (i) v.31: no god like our God!
 - (ii) v.32-33: false religion is cruel

- (iii) v.35-35: God Himself is our hope
APPLICATION: O it is still true!

3. OUR DECLENSION IS A DISGRACE TO US

- 1) v.36: Here is our Hope of revival
- 2) v.37-38: God taunts his people
OBSERVE: O what fools we have been!
- 3) What has led to all this?
 - (i) pride: our students to Germany
 - (ii) loss of truth: Bible / Christ / God
 - (iii) decline in holiness
 - (iv) ignorant preaching + worship**APPLICATION**: Let us feel our disgrace

4. DECLENSION MUST STIR US TO PRAY

- 1) Our hope is here: v.36 (Explain)
- 2) It is when our "power is gone"
 - (i) few conversions
 - (ii) shortage of preachers
 - (iii) aging congregations...
- 3) But God is the same!
 - (i) v.39: God's power is glorious
 - (ii) He can scatter the enemies
 - (iii) He can retrace the joy (v.43)**APPLICATION**: O! who is praying for this?

PSALM**81: 10 – 16****85: 6 – 13****89: 49 – 52****CONCLUSION**

1. Believe this Song + its message
2. Let it fill your very soul
3. Cry out to God for a new day of grace.