

¹Maschil of Asaph. O God, why hast thou cast us off for ever? why doth thine anger smoke against the sheep of thy pasture?²Remember thy congregation, which thou hast purchased of old; the rod of thine inheritance, which thou hast redeemed; this mount Zion, wherein thou hast dwelt.³Lift up thy feet unto the perpetual desolations; even all that the enemy hath done wickedly in the sanctuary.⁴Thine enemies roar in the midst of thy congregations; they set up their ensigns for signs.⁵A man was famous according as he had lifted up axes upon the thick trees.⁶But now they break down the carved work thereof at once with axes and hammers.⁷They have cast fire into thy sanctuary, they have defiled by casting down the dwelling place of thy name to the ground.⁸They said in their hearts, Let us destroy them together: they have burned up all the synagogues of God in the land.⁹We see not our signs: there is no more any prophet: neither is there among us any that knoweth how long.¹⁰O God, how long shall the adversary reproach? shall the enemy blaspheme thy name for ever?¹¹Why withdrawest thou thy hand, even thy right hand? pluck it out of thy

bosom.¹²For God is my King of old, working salvation in the midst of the earth.¹³Thou didst divide the sea by thy strength: thou brakest the heads of the dragons in the waters.¹⁴Thou brakest the heads of leviathan in pieces, and gavest him to be meat to the people inhabiting the wilderness.¹⁵Thou didst cleave the fountain and the flood: thou driedst up mighty rivers.¹⁶The day is thine, the night also is thine: thou hast prepared the light and the sun.¹⁷Thou hast set all the borders of the earth: thou hast made summer and winter.¹⁸Remember this, that the enemy hath reproached, O LORD, and that the foolish people have blasphemed thy name.¹⁹O deliver not the soul of thy turtledove unto the multitude of the wicked : forget not the congregation of thy poor for ever.²⁰Have respect unto the covenant: for the dark places of the earth are full of the habitations of cruelty.²¹O let not the oppressed return ashamed: let the poor and needy praise thy name.²²Arise, O God, plead thine own cause: remember how the foolish man reproacheth thee daily.²³Forget not the voice of thine enemies: the tumult of those that rise up against thee increaseth continually.