

“Mighty King, lover of justice, you have established fairness. You have acted with justice and righteousness throughout Israel.” Psalms 99:4 NLT

## lectio // Psalm 99

Psalm 99 describes David's absolute love for God and highlights his own love for his beloved city, Jerusalem. City of Zion! I know it sounds very Matrix-like. David sees God directing all of the affairs of humans and existence of all life in the planet from this high point in Israel. It's home. It's familiar. It's patriotic, nationalistic and deeply spiritual at the same for him. We know that God's throne is not in Jerusalem, it's in the "heavens" and the whole earth is but one of his footstools. But this stanza above is what caught my attention - God is THE lover of justice! And, in all his dealings with Israel and the entire human race has been done justly and righteously. God cannot, will not EVER be wrong or act outside of his character. That's hard for us as humans to comprehend because we have a full knowledge (because of sin) of evil, but not full knowledge of everything that exists. This full knowledge of evil only allows us to see the horrible actions of humanity and honestly the inexcusable actions in our own hearts and minds. Our imagination has no end to its creativity nor to its destructive desires. It's probably impossible to see outside our brokenness to see what perfection looks like. Here's a question: does evil exist somewhere within God? Where did evil come from? Satan (who was created) choose to withhold worship to himself and choose to rebel against God. And God threw him out of heaven along with a third of the creative angels. He was tossed out to THIS planet.

## oratio

pray as responding to the words, phrase, sentence that God has stirred within you

Dad,

You are not only above all, you are also above time, space and place. There are no restrictions or limitations on you. You are boundless in your power and generous in your love and mercy. Yet, you are completely right, true and just in everything you do. My questions come out of severe limitations and perspective. I cannot even trust my own motives, let alone my decisions to be right all the time. I am sure things are quite different in eternity, where there will be no veil, no shadows, no sin. I can't wait!

## contemplatio

rest in the presence of God, allowing the words revealed to take root