Psalm 79

Do you have a favorite Bible passage?

Read (What does it say?): Psalm 79

Explain

What is the historical context?
(We think) it’s the ____________ captivity of 587 BC

Are there any literary/structural observations?

What are the most repeated words?
Your/you (20), our/us/we (14), they/them (7)

What do the words mean?
A Psalm of Asaph [“collector”]. [Who is Asaph?]

1 O God [elohiym], the nations have come into Your inheritance;
Your holy temple they have defiled [piel perfect; defile (self), pollute (self), be (make, make self, pronounce) __________];
They have laid Jerusalem in heaps.
2 The dead bodies of Your servants
They have given as food for the birds of the heavens,
The flesh of Your saints to the beasts of the earth.
3 Their blood they have shed like water all around Jerusalem,
And there was no one to bury them.
4 We have become a reproach [rebuke, reproach, ________] to our neighbors,
A scorn and derision [a laughing-stock] to those who are around us.
5 How long, Lord [yehovah]?
Will You be angry [to breathe ______, be enraged: be angry (displeased)] forever?
Will Your jealousy burn like fire?
6 Pour out [qal imperative] Your wrath on the nations that do not know You,
And on the kingdoms that do not call on Your name.
7 For they have devoured Jacob,
And laid waste [to stun, devastate or (figuratively) stupefy: make amazed, be astonied, (be an) astonish(-ment), (be, bring into, unto, lay, lie, make) desolate(-ion, places), be destitute, destroy (self), (lay, lie, make) waste, wonder] his dwelling place.

8 Oh, do not remember former iniquities [perversity, i.e., (moral) evil: fault, iniquity, mischief, punishment (of iniquity), sin] against us!
Let Your tender mercies [bowels, compassion, damsel, tender love, (great, tender) mercy, pity, womb] come speedily to meet [piel imperfect] us,
For we have been brought [bring low, dry up, be emptied, be not equal, fail, be impoverished, be made ______] very [________] low.
9 Help us [qal imperative; to surround, protect or aid: help], O God [elohiym] of our salvation [yesha; liberty, deliverance, prosperity: safety, salvation, saving],
For the glory [_______] of Your name;
And deliver us [hiphil imperative; defend, deliver (self), escape, part, pluck, preserve, recover, rescue, rid, save, spoil, strip, take (out)], and provide atonement [piel imperative; to _______; figuratively, to expiate or condone, to placate or cancel: appease, make (an atonement, cleanse, disannul, forgive, be merciful, pacify, pardon, purge (away), put off, (make) reconcile(-liation)] for our sins,
For Your name's sake!
10 Why should the nations say,
“Where is their God [elohiym]?”
Let there be known among the nations in our sight
The avenging [avengement, whether the act or the passion: avenge, revenge(-ing), vengeance] of the blood of Your servants which has been shed.
11 Let the groaning [shrieking; crying out, groaning, sighing] of the prisoner come before You;
According to the greatness [magnitude: greatness, stout(-ness)] of Your power
[the arm (as stretched out), or (of animals) the foreleg; figuratively, force: arm, help, mighty, power, shoulder, strength]
Preserve [hiphil imperative; excel, leave (a remnant), left behind, too much, make plenteous, preserve, (be, let) remain(-der, -ing, -nant), reserve, residue, rest] those who are appointed [a _____] to die;
12 And return [hiphil imperative] to our neighbors sevenfold into their bosom
[to enclose; the bosom (literally or figuratively): bosom, bottom, lap, midst, within]
Their reproach [contumely, disgrace: rebuke, reproach(-fully), shame] with which they have reproached You [piel perfect; to pull off, i.e., (by implication) to expose (as by stripping); specifically, to betroth (as if a surrender); figuratively, to carp at, i.e., defame; to spend the winter: betroth, blaspheme, defy, jeopard, rail, reproach, upbraid], O Lord [adonay].

Is this a Biblical prayer to pray today?

13 So we, Your people and sheep of Your pasture [flock, pasture],
Will give You thanks [hiphil imperfect; literally, to use (i.e., hold out) the _______; physically, to throw (a stone, an arrow) at or away; especially to revere or worship (with extended hands); intensively, to bemoan (by wringing the hands): cast (out), (make) confess(-ion), praise, shoot, (give) thank(-ful, -s, -sgiving)] forever;
We will show forth [piel imperfect; properly, to ________ with a mark as a tally or record, i.e., (by implication) to inscribe, and also to enumerate; intensively, to recount, i.e., celebrate: commune, (ac-) count; declare, number, penknife, reckon, scribe, shew forth, speak, talk, tell (out), writer] Your praise [laudation; specifically (concretely) a hymn: praise] to all generations.
Apply (What is the point?)
1. Little known little value
2. Christians can praise God in ____ situation
3. God’s ultimate deliverance is far away
4. ____ requires judgment
5. Telling God’s story shows His praise

Personalize (What do we do with that?)
1. Don’t forget the ______________
2. Praise Him right now
3. Praise Him despite the ______________
4. Know that ______ took the judgment
5. Tell _____ story

Next week: 2 Peter