

Civil Disobedience: Handout Seven

❖ **Imprecatory Prayers**

1. A Simple Definition – An a_____ to God to pour out His w_____ and c_____ upon an individual or individuals
2. A Partial Listing – Psalm 12, 35, 44, 55, 58, 59, 69, 79, 83, 109, 137, and 139; Acts 8:20 and 23:2; I Corinthians 16:22, Galatians 5:1-12, II Timothy 4:14

❖ **Questions to Consider as We Read**

1. What vivid (poetic?) language is used to describe these imprecations?
2. Generally speaking to whom are these imprecations directed? More specifically, are they directed against any civil rulers?
3. What is the overall motive(s) of those who utter these imprecations?

❖ **Two Concluding Questions**

1. Does the fact that these imprecations are uttered by religious leaders limit their scope for private citizens?
2. Does the coming of Christ and the establishment of the New Covenant alter our understanding of the appropriateness of imprecations? Consider Matthew 5:38-48.

❖ Concluding Remarks

1. Imprecations are not p_____ v_____.
2. Imprecations are directed against h_____ e_____ of the
L_____ and of the g_____.
3. Some c_____ r_____ demonstrate that they are such
e_____.
4. Imprecations are p_____ by godly leaders and are
a_____ by others.
5. Imprecations should be c_____ considered and
c_____ prayers.
6. A Practical Suggestion – If your e_____ determine that such
i_____ are appropriate against c_____
r_____ (note not the pastor alone), we will inform you that such
is the case before u_____ such public p_____ and
before a_____ you to join us in such imprecations.