

Questions on Ps 79

Translation note: a better rendering of the second half of v. 10 is, “Let the revenging of the blood of thy servants which is shed be known among the heathen in our sight.”

1. Which of Asaph's psalms that we have already studied does this one most closely resemble? Make a list of the similarities. How is their emphasis different?
2. As often, the key to the structure of this Psalm is in the modes of the verbs (imperative vs. indicative vs. interrogative). Which are the dominant modes in this Psalm, and where are they concentrated?
3. v. 5 is very similar to a verse in Ps 74. Which one? How are their functions similar in the two psalms?
4. In terms of mode, why does v. 7 seem out of place? What is its function in this location?
5. Asaph's requests (the imperatives) fall into two broad categories. What are they?
6. How does the request in vv. 8-9 go beyond that in Ps 74? What should we always remember when difficulties come?
7. What motive does Asaph give for both categories of request? Compare Ps 74.
8. How is this motive related to the conclusion of the Psalm in v. 13?
9. The name of the tune (*shoshannim eduth*, 80:1) appears in one other psalm (with the plural *shoshanim* where the other has the singular *shushan*). What is that psalm? (You can find it using the Strong's numbers in your Bible software.) How are the two psalms similar?