

Let Them Be as the Grass on the Housetops (Psalm 129)

Grace Chapel September 6, 2009 Dr. John Niemelä

INTRODUCTION

PSALM 129

A psalm of ascents

Anonymous

(129:1–2) Let Israel say, Many a time they have afflicted me from my youth

The nation is treated as if it were one person

(129:3) Oppressors (plowmen) have plowed long furrows on Israel's back (to plunder its agricultural wealth)

(129:4) The LORD, who is righteous has cut into pieces the cords of the wicked (Gentile) oppressors

Cords could refer to the various pieces of tack for controlling the animals that plow

Cords could refer to the means of subjugating the Israelites

(19:5) May the LORD shame and punish those who hate Jerusalem
Zion is the mountain where the Temple was (in Jerusalem)

(19:6–7) May the LORD make those who hate Jerusalem be like ephemeral grass on housetops that withers early and is never reaped, never bound into sheaves

(19:8) May no one extend a blessing to those who hate Jerusalem

A NEW TESTAMENT PARALLEL (regarding Israel)

BY THE WAY, GOD PROMISES TO PROTECT THE CHURCH ALSO

CONCLUSION