

## NEW GROWTH AMONG PETTY TYRANTS<sup>i</sup>

1. You petty tyrants who strut and preen your immorality, hell bent on harming everything that's noble, good, or speaks of God.
2. Your tongues are instruments of pain that shred and tear the world with its ragged edge.
3. Your every word creates some new vice that only kills the truth in favor of your lies.
4. Though you love your words of hurt and harm, you become first victim of lying tongue you are.
5. For in the end you will be ripped away from your own safe keeps, as the living land surrenders you to God.
6. Then all that live shall finally see what comes to you, and in relief will laugh and say,
7. "So this is what befalls all those who do not take their strength from God, who hide out in the shelter of consumer goods, who plot with power to make their wealth a home."

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### <sup>i</sup> NOTES:

1. THE SUBJECT OF THIS Psalm is political intrigue aimed at harming those who seek to do what is good. The world is filled with evil which distorts the truth in favor of lies. The tongue becomes the agent of evil, which is echoed in Christian scriptures by St. James (James 3)
2. Ancient and modern humanity appear to be very much alike. Verse 7 expresses the tendency of human beings in every age to take refuge in their wealth and power.

This translation and these notes are taken from "Ancient Songs Sung Anew: the psalms as poetry" by Lynn Bauman