

Psalms 56

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Psalms 56

Honest worship of the heart

The Prayer of the Wanderer

Psalm 56

David was anointed with the Holy Spirit at the age of fifteen, but it took him fourteen years to sit on the throne. Today we all have the seal of the Holy Spirit, and the life in us is the victorious life of Christ, but it must go through many years of God's work, and Peter tells us that we can be partakers of God's nature; The result of our constant carving on us by the cross is a life of victory, and God wants to put us on a throne to be seen, the position of a king, and life is a life of victory; This is the process by which the Holy Spirit works in us. God did not promise that the sky would always be blue, nor did God promise that the flowers would always be fragrant, but God carved us through various circumstances. Fleeing from one wilderness to another through various circumstances.

The poetry of the world, faint sorrow, surrounded by negative thoughts, Li Houzhu's "ask how much sorrow you can have, just like a river flowing eastward" is full of sorrow, There is nothing in the world worthy of love, the same poetry, but David's poetry is full of praise, it is the pearl of praise of the heart. David faced fear and hardship, but his heart sang the hymn of life.

David escaped from Saul and relied on his own wisdom and ability to lie to the priests and then flee to Gath, the hometown of Goliath, believing that he would be safe from the Philistine enemy, but ended up in the wolf's den and fell into the hands of the Philistines. 1~2 sections; It was David's desperate predicament at that time, and the theme was the silent pigeon in the distance; No sound.

David went through a long period of fear in danger, despair, and stress. During these days, David was not discouraged, though he was "terribly afraid," but his heart was brightened by the light of God. For God

showed him the way out above when the way out on all sides was blocked, so that he could sing, "When I am afraid, I will trust in prayer."

But David said, "Have mercy on me, O God, save me, Most High." David's heart sounded a voice of leaning. The sound of fear was surging, like thunder; But the voice of leaning was quiet, and David's heart was facing fear and hunting, and he said, "My heart, O God, I trust in you." He sang the hymn of his heart: "My soul trusts in you, O Most High God." He faced the hardships of life and said, "Have mercy on me, O God." "I trust in God, and I will not be afraid." And in the end he used the rhetorical question, "What can the flesh do to me?" Meaning: Even if it is death, I am not afraid. When David faced death, he believed in God, he committed his life to God, he knew that his God was the Most High God, and the God He knew was God Almighty, so he said, "I will not be afraid, what shall the flesh do to me?"

The psalmist was moved by what God had to say, and David experienced a very real interaction with God. "How many times I have been displaced, you have counted. Put my tears in your skins. The psalmist writes that tears are to be contained in leather bags, not because of an overflow of emotion, but because he feels God's cherishment and love for him. David said that God has a skin bag to hold our tears, and God has a book to commemorate our wanderings.

Dear Heavenly Father,

We thank You for Your love and mercy, and You are our shield and salvation. At this moment, we come to You and ask You to hear our prayers. "Have mercy on me, O God, save me, Most High." We confess our weaknesses and transgressions, and ask for Your forgiveness and mercy.

Save us from difficulties and challenges and bring peace to our hearts. You are our refuge and strength, and we entrust all our burdens to You, and may You guide us with Your wisdom and help us to rely on Your grace in every day of our lives.

Ask You to give us the faith and strength to stand firm in Your love. May we always find comfort in Your presence and guide our lives with Your truth.

Thank you for hearing our prayers, and we ask in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, amen.

Psalm 56

Supplication for Rescue and Grateful Trust in God.

To the Chief Musician; set to [the tune of] "Silent Dove Among Those Far Away." A Mikhtam of David. [A record of memorable thoughts] when the Philistines seized him in Gath.

56 Be gracious to me, O God, for man has trampled on me;
All day long the adversary oppresses *and* torments me.

2

My enemies have trampled upon me all day long,
For they are many who fight proudly against me.

3

When I am afraid,
I will put my trust *and* faith in You.

4

In God, whose word I praise;
In God I have put my trust;
I shall not fear.

What can mere man do to me?

5

All day long they twist my words *and* say hurtful things;
All their thoughts are against me for evil.

6

They attack, they hide *and* lurk,
They watch my steps,
As they have [expectantly] waited *to take* my life.

7

Cast them out because of their wickedness.
In anger bring down the peoples, O God!

8

You have taken account of my wanderings;
Put my tears in Your bottle.
Are they not recorded in Your book?

9

Then my enemies will turn back in the day when I call;
This I know, that God is for me.

10

In God, *whose* word I praise,
In the Lord, *whose* word I praise,

11

In God have I put my trust *and* confident reliance; I will not be afraid.
What can man do to me?

12

Your vows are *binding* upon me, O God;
I will give thank offerings to You.

13

For You have rescued my soul from death,
Yes, and my feet from stumbling,
So that I may walk before God
In the light of life.

Psalm 56 is attributed to David, written when he was captured by the Philistines in Gath (see 1 Samuel 21:10-15). This psalm reflects David's trust in God amid distress and fear, as he faces both physical danger and emotional turmoil from his enemies. The psalm is a powerful testimony to God's faithfulness and protection, and it also highlights the importance of prayer and reliance on God's promises during challenging times.

Structure and Overview

1. Verses 1-2: A Cry for Mercy

- **1:** "Be merciful to me, O God, for man would swallow me up; fighting all day he oppresses me."
- **2:** "My enemies would hound me all day, for there are many who fight against me, O Most High."

David begins by acknowledging the overwhelming number of his enemies and the oppression he faces. He calls out for God's mercy, recognizing that his enemies are relentless and cruel in their attacks.

2. Verses 3-4: Trust in God Amid Fear

- **3:** "Whenever I am afraid, I will trust in You."
- **4:** "In God (I will praise His word), in God I have put my trust; I will not fear. What can flesh do to me?"

In these verses, David makes a profound statement of faith. Despite the fear that naturally arises in the face of danger, David chooses to place his trust in God. He resolves not to fear, knowing that God is his refuge and protector. This is a powerful declaration of faith, emphasizing trust in God's sovereignty and faithfulness over the power of human enemies.

3. Verses 5-7: The Enemies' Persistent Attacks

- **5:** "All day they twist my words; all their thoughts are against me for evil."
- **6:** "They gather together, they hide, they mark my steps, when they lie in wait for my life."
- **7:** "Shall they escape by iniquity? In anger cast down the peoples, O God!"

David continues to describe the cruelty of his enemies, who distort his words and plot against him. He also asks God to judge his enemies, expressing his trust that God will act justly on his behalf. There is a strong appeal for divine justice and for the protection of the innocent.

4. Verses 8-9: God's Care and David's Confidence

- **8:** "You number my wanderings; Put my tears into Your bottle; Are they not in Your book?"
- **9:** "When I cry out to You, then my enemies will turn back; This I know, because God is for me."

David recalls God's intimate care for him, even in his most vulnerable moments. God knows his every move and even records his tears, which symbolize his suffering. David's faith in God's attentive care grows as he reflects on God's past faithfulness. He is confident that when he calls out to God, his enemies will retreat, because God is on his side.

5. Verses 10-11: Reaffirming Trust

- **10:** "In God (I will praise His word), In the Lord (I will praise His word),"

- **11:** "In God I have put my trust; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?"

David again reaffirms his trust in God. He emphasizes his commitment to praising God's word and trusting in His promises. This repetition reinforces his confidence and faith in God as his protector, highlighting that no matter what threats come from men, they are powerless against God's will.

6. **Verses 12-13: A Vow of Praise and Gratitude**

- **12:** "Vows made to You are binding upon me, O God; I will render praises to You,"
- **13:** "For You have delivered my soul from death; Have You not kept my feet from falling, That I may walk before God In the light of the living?"

David expresses his gratitude for God's deliverance. He promises to fulfill the vows he made to God and to continue praising Him. The psalm ends with David acknowledging God's protection over his life, saving him from death and allowing him to live in the presence of God.

Important Verses from Psalm 56

- **Verse 3:** "Whenever I am afraid, I will trust in You."
- **Verse 4:** "In God I have put my trust; I will not fear. What can flesh do to me?"
- **Verse 9:** "When I cry out to You, then my enemies will turn back; This I know, because God is for me."
- **Verse 11:** "In God I have put my trust; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?"
- **Verse 13:** "For You have delivered my soul from death; Have You not kept my feet from falling, That I may walk before God In the light of the living?"

These verses are central to the psalm's message, highlighting the key themes of trust, deliverance, and the power of God in the midst of fear and danger.

Spiritual Influence and Applications

Psalm 56 has deep spiritual implications for believers, and its themes can be applied to various aspects of the Christian life:

1. **Trust in God During Fear and Trials:**

- The psalm teaches that even in the most terrifying circumstances, we can choose to trust in God. Fear is a natural human response, but the psalm reminds us that we can turn to God in trust rather than letting fear control us. God's sovereignty and protection are our refuge.

2. **God's Constant Care:**

- David reflects on God's care for him, even down to the smallest details, such as numbering his wanderings and collecting his tears. This reveals a profound truth about God's personal attention to His people. We are not overlooked; God cares deeply about our pain and struggles. This can bring comfort to anyone feeling isolated or overlooked in difficult circumstances.

3. **Confidence in God's Protection:**

- David is assured that God is with him and that God will act on his behalf. The psalm encourages believers to maintain their confidence in God's protection, even when enemies or circumstances seem overwhelming. This confidence is rooted not in our own strength, but in God's unfailing faithfulness.

4. The Power of Prayer:

- The psalm demonstrates the power of prayer and calling on God in times of trouble. David's trust in God's response to his prayers motivates him to cry out for help, knowing that God hears him. Believers are encouraged to rely on prayer as a means of seeking God's intervention and strengthening their relationship with Him.

5. Gratitude and Praise for Deliverance:

- After reflecting on God's faithfulness in delivering him from danger, David vows to praise God and fulfill his commitments to Him. This highlights the importance of gratitude and offering praise when God delivers us from trials. It also teaches that our response to God's blessings should be one of worship and commitment.

6. Spiritual Victory Over Fear and Oppression:

- Psalm 56 challenges believers to overcome the fear of man with the fear of God, to live in the assurance that no human or circumstance can ultimately harm us when we are walking in God's will. This spiritual victory is found in trusting God's word, His promises, and His power over every situation.

Conclusion

Psalm 56 is a profound prayer of trust, deliverance, and praise in the face of danger and fear. It encourages believers to place their trust in God, knowing that He sees our suffering and will protect us from harm. It challenges us to respond to God's faithfulness with praise and a life of commitment. By meditating on this psalm, Christians can find strength to face life's trials, knowing that God is with them, for them, and will never leave them.