

PSALMS WE NEED TO SING
“PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY OF A BELIEVER”
“A CONFESSION OF CONFIDENCE IN CRISIS”

Psalm 25
December 2, 2018

Psalms 25

*“To You, O Lord, I lift up my soul.
O my God, I trust in You;
Let me not be ashamed;
Let not my enemies triumph over me.
Indeed, let no one who waits on You be ashamed;
Let those be ashamed who deal treacherously without
cause.
Show me Your ways, O Lord;
Teach me Your paths.
Lead me in Your truth and teach me,
For You are the God of my salvation;
On You I wait all the day.
Remember, O Lord, Your tender mercies and Your
lovingkindnesses,
For they are from of old.
Do not remember the sins of my youth, nor my
transgressions;
According to Your mercy remember me,
For Your goodness' sake, O Lord.
Good and upright is the Lord;
Therefore He teaches sinners in the way.
The humble He guides in justice,
And the humble He teaches His way.*

*All the paths of the Lord are mercy and truth,
To such as keep His covenant and His testimonies.
For Your name's sake, O Lord,
Pardon my iniquity, for it is great.
Who is the man that fears the Lord?
Him shall He teach in the way He chooses.
He himself shall dwell in prosperity,
And his descendants shall inherit the earth.
The secret of the Lord is with those who fear Him,
And He will show them His covenant.
My eyes are ever toward the Lord,
For He shall pluck my feet out of the net.
Turn Yourself to me, and have mercy on me,
For I am desolate and afflicted.
The troubles of my heart have enlarged;
Bring me out of my distresses!
Look on my affliction and my pain,
And forgive all my sins.
Consider my enemies, for they are many;
And they hate me with cruel hatred.
Keep my soul, and deliver me;
Let me not be ashamed, for I put my trust in You.
Let integrity and uprightness preserve me,
For I wait for You.
Redeem Israel, O God,
Out of all their troubles!"*

INTRODUCTION: The Psalmist (David) pictures life as a difficult journey. On five different occasions, he

mentions “way” and “paths” as he cries out to God for wisdom as he makes decisions.

Psalms 25:4-5

**“Show me Your ways, O Lord;
Lead me in Your truth and teach me,
For You are the God of my salvation;
On You I wait all the day.”**

David finds himself a little later in life with a **double crisis**.

1. **EXTERNAL** threat of enemies:

- He is surrounded by enemies – 2
- They hate him – 19
- They lay traps for him – 15
- They want him to fail and be ashamed – 2, 3, 20

2. **INTERNAL** crisis of his own sins:

- Whatever the trial David is going through, it drives him to the Lord. Crisis are used to bring us to the end of ourselves.
- Crisis drove David to prayer. David is in need of that which Christians practice the least.

As David approaches the Lord, he is aware of the truth of **Psalm 139**.

Psalms 139:1-4

**“O Lord, You have searched me and known me.
You know my sitting down and my rising up;
You understand my thought afar off.
You comprehend my path and my lying down,
And are acquainted with all my ways.
For there is not a word on my tongue,
But behold, O Lord, You know it altogether.”**

Therefore, there is no:

1. MINIMIZING
2. RATIONALIZING
3. JUSTIFYING

RATHER,

4. EMPHAZING

FLAT OUT WRONG

David speaks of my soul, my God, my enemies, my salvation, my youth, my eyes, my feet, my heart, my distresses, my affliction, my pain, my sins, and my trust. He speaks of sins – missing the mark. Transgressions – stepping over the line.

Iniquity- the perversity of my heart.

NOTE:

I. HE LOOKS TO GOD AS HIS SOURCE 1-7

A. As His Guard 1-3

Protect me – I often ask God for His protection, His provision, His peace.

David addresses God as Jehovah and Elohim; God of **covenant** and God of **creation**. He sees God as the God of **promise** and of **power**.

B. As His Guide 4-5

1. I want to be led. 4

Some want to be led but don't really want God to show us His will; we simply want Him to confirm our will.

V5 “Lead me in your truth” – reminds us that the Word and prayer always go together.

John 15:7

“If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.”

John 7:17

“If anyone wills to do His will, he shall know concerning the doctrine, whether it is from God or whether I speak on My own authority.”

2. I'm Willing To Be Led 5a

Until you are willing to be guided, God will not reveal His will to you.

EXAMPLE: Janet and I being called; 1972 (46 years ago)

1 Samuel 21:2

“So David said to Ahimelech the priest, ”’The king has ordered me on some business, and said to me, 'Do not let anyone know anything about the business on which I send you, or what I have commanded you.' And I have directed my young men to such and such a place.”

3. I Am Waiting To Be Led 5b

God is never in a hurry; we are impatient so we act without God's guidance, then complain when things go wrong.

C. As To The Only One To Deal With His Guilt 6-7

David is not pleading his MERITS, but God's MERCY.

"sins of my youth" – inadvertent sins; unintentional

"transgressions"- willful acts of rebellion

David sought forgiveness. "for your goodness sake," not mine.

II. HE LOOKS TO GOD BECAUSE HE CAN BE TRUSTED 8-14

- The Humble are led. 9
- The Obedient receive mercy and truth. 10
- A willingness to obey is the first step toward spiritual understanding.

- He is gracious and merciful to atone who
Repent 11
- We should walk in **“the fear of the Lord”**
12

Knowing that the Lord has a plan for our lives, and that this is the very best for us, should give us great joy and confidence as we seek His will.

Psalms 16:11

**“You will show me the path of life;
In Your presence is fullness of joy;
At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.”**

13 Blessings from your obedience.

14 **“Secret”** – intimate communication,
plans, purposes.

It speaks of developing a close fellowship with Him and better understanding His ways.

III. THE LORD HELPS HIM OVERCOME

15-22

Notes the enemies that God helped him overcome.

A. Snares 15

David needed protection **“pluck my feet from the net.”** Satan seeks to trap us.

B. Loneliness 16

“desolate” – deserted; a sorrow through separation from a loved one; abandonment and neglect.

4 A’s:

David’s 3 sons- Absalom, Amnon, and Adonijah turned against him. Ahitophel his close friend and advisor deserted him.

C. A Broken Heart 17

God can heal a broken heart.

D. Regrets 18

Things done in the past, and these regrets were robbing him of peace and joy.

E. Fear 19-20

David feared for his life.

Proverbs 16:7

**“When a man's ways please the Lord,
He makes even his enemies to be at peace with
him.”**

F. Despair 21-22

I hope in You! To lose hope is to surrender the
future to the enemy.

V22 The psalms could be used in public worship;
don't waste your sorrows.