

BIBLE STUDY OUTLINE

PSALM 17

Psalm 17 is the sixth prayer of
distress

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=> David makes eight requests starting from verses 1-6

=> Background to Psalm 17

Probably written before Psalm 6 where we talked about David's sin with Bathsheba and the murder of her husband Uriah

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PSALM 17

- => David's first request was "Hear the right/righteous, O Lord"
- => This Psalm of distress was probably because of Saul who sought relentlessly to kill David (1 Samuel 23)
- => So in the first request, what David is saying is that what I'm asking is righteous

OUTLINE CONTINUED

- => In David's second request, he pleads with God to hear his cry
- => David was a man and a warrior but cried before the Lord
- => Men it's okay to cry

OUTLINE CONTINUED

- => David says his prayer goes not from feigned lips (vrs. 1)
- => He actually had no choice because there's no secret before the Lord
- => Not all of our requests as Christians are from unfeigned lips

OUTLINE CONTNUED

- => In vrs. 2 David says “Let my vindication come from your presence and let thine eyes behold the things that are equal”
- => David wants God to vindicate him. He wants justice from God
- => Vrs. 3: David continues to plead his innocence
 - 1) thou hast proved mine heart

OUTLINE CONTINUED

- 2) thou hast visited me in the night
- 3) thou hast tried me, and shall find nothing
- 4) I am purposed that my mouth shall not transgress (James 3:2. For in many things we offend all. If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, and able to bridle the whole body)

OUTLINE CONTINUED

- => Verse 4: Concerning the works of men, by the words of thy lips I have kept me from the path of the destroyer
- => The New International Reader's Version puts it this way "I don't do the things other people do. By obeying your word I have kept myself from those who try to hurt others"

OUTLINE PSALM 17 CONTINUED

- => Verse 5: Hold up my goings in thy paths, that my footsteps slip not
- => The Message Bible: I'm putting one foot in front of the other. I'm not giving up
- => Hebrews 12:2....fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author/pioneer and finisher of our faith
- => He will uphold our outgoings and incomings

OUTLINE CONTINUED

⇒ Verse 6: I have called upon thee, for thou will hear me. O God: incline thine ear unto me and hear my speech

⇒ Message Bible: I call to you because I'm sure of an answer. Bend your ear! Listen sharp!

⇒ In times of difficulty and urgency, we need to cry unto the Lord and expect Him to hear us

OUTLINE CONTINUED

=>Verse 7: Shew thy marvelous loving-kindness

In our prayers as Christians, we can invoke the marvelous loving-kindness and the grace of God to be manifested in our faith to renew our confidence, in our intellect to take away ignorance, in our heart to revive our gratitude, and in our experience to deliver us from our fears (Charles H. Spurgeon's Commentary)

OUTLINE CONTINUED

⇒ Verse 8: Keep me as the apple of the eye.

Eye⇒ One of the most complex and well-protected organs

⇒ Hide me under the shadow of thy wings

Psalm 91:1-4

The secret place of The Most High is under the shadow of His wings where there is defense and protection

OUTLINE CONTINUED

- => Verses 9-12 talks about the plots, plans and schemes by David's deadly enemies who are bent on having him dead
- => As christians, we should always be cognizant of the fact that the enemy plans, plots, and set up schemes to trip, trap, and discourage us in our walk with Christ and eventually cause us to quit!
- => We are to abide under the shadow of the Almighty to overcome all these schemes! (Eph.6:12-17)

OUTLINE CONTINUED

- ⇒ Verse 13: Arise O Lord, disappoint him, cast him down: deliver my soul from the wicked, which is thy sword.
- ⇒ The enemy and all his agents are instruments of God. He's able to turn every situation around in our favor no matter what if we trust him!

OUTLINE CONTINUED

⇒ Verse 14: David continues to ask God to deliver him from men of this world; from mortal men whose hope are only in this present world. But as Paul said, “If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable” (I Cor. 15:17)

⇒ **HOPE** : Very important in times of distress

OUTLINE CONTINUED

- =>A person in distress most of the time has requests.
- =>Not everyone going through distress has this element of hope which is critical to overcome
- =>Hope sees light at the end of the tunnel and not a never-ending tunnel of darkness
- =>Hope is what will help keep your sanity and prevent you from harming yourself
- =>Hope is like an antidote to depression
- =>Hope: Confident expectation that what God has promised will surely come to pass because of His faithfulness
- =>Hope is like an anchor to the soul => **STABILITY**

OUTLINE CONTINUED

Will your anchor hold in the storms of life,
When the clouds unfold their wings of strife?
When the strong tides lift, and the cable strain,
Will your anchor drift or firm remain?

*We have an anchor that keeps the soul
Steadfast and sure while the billows roll,
Fastened to the rock which cannot move,
Grounded firm and deep in the Savior's love!*

OUTLINE CONTINUED

=>The bible says Christ in us the **HOPE** of glory
(Col.1:27)

Verse 15: David now focuses on God. Not his
distress and the schemes of his enemies. He says
....I shall be satisfied when I awake in thy likeness”

David now moves into the realm of prophecy.

1 John 3:2 sayswhen He shall appear, we shall be
like him”. This prophecy will be fulfilled in the
resurrection when bodily we shall be like Jesus!!