

Rhema Christian Center
Tuesday, December 21st, 2021
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Psalm Chapter 31 KJV

Psalm 31 can be divided into six arears. (1) A plea for salvation, verses 1-2, (11) Trust and Gladness, verses 3-8, (111) Prayer in Distress, verses 9-14, (1V) Trust and Prayer, verses 15-18, (V) Song of Praise, verses 19-22, and (V1) Encouragement, verses 23-24.

Call for Salvation

Vs.1-2) in thee, O LORD, do I put my trust; let me never be ashamed: deliver me in thy righteousness. (2) Bow down thine ear to me; deliver me speedily: be thou my strong rock, for a house of defense to save me.

The emphasis in **Vs.1** is on **"in thee"** David declares that he trust in God and has taken refuge in Him, "the LORD. The LORD is the God who is faithful to the covenant He made to Israel. **"The I AM who I AM"**.

The LORD is his only shelter. He has no one else, nor does he want anyone else. He can ask no one else **not** to let him be ashamed.

As we look at **Vs.2** David begs God for a quick rescue and to pay attention to his plea. Time is running out, the need is growing by the minute. He ask God to be "his rock of strength" a rock house and strong hold for him.

Ps. 18:2) The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower.

Trust and Gladness.

Vs.3-8) for thou art my rock and my fortress; therefore for thy name's sake lead me, and guide me. (4) Pull me out of the net that they have laid secretly for me: for thou art my strength. (5) Into thine hand I commit my spirit: thou hast redeemed me, O LORD God of truth. (6) I have hated them that regard lying vanities: but I trust in the LORD. (7) I will be glad and rejoice in thy mercy: for thou

hast considered my trouble; thou hast known my soul in adversities; (8) and hast not shut me up into the hand of the enemy: thou hast set my feet in a large room.

It is clear in **Vs.3)** that David expresses his trust in God and that God is to him what he has asked in **Vs.2)** there are several synonyms for God in connection with trust: STRONG ROCK; FORTRESS; THE LORD IS THE ROCK WHOSE WORK IS PERFECT. **(Deu. 32:4) He is the Rock, His work is perfect: for all His ways are judgment: a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is He.**

David prayed on in faith and he received the answer by faith! Asking God to lead and guide him "for Your (God's) name sake. **(Heb.11:6) God is a rewarder to those who seek Him.**

In **Vs.4)** David cried out to God for help because his enemies had set an invisible net or trap for him. He ask God keep him from falling into the trap and to free him from all danger. **(Jere. 17:7) Blessed is the man that trust in the LORD and whose hope is in the LORD.**

David commits his spirit, which is his life or breath of life into God's hand **(Vs. 5)**. We are admonish to do the same. **(1 Pet. 4:19) Let them who suffer according to the will of God commit the keeping of their souls to Him in well doing, as unto a faithful Creator.**

Vs.6) David put the emphasis on "I" (that he) trust in the LORD and not on puny vain idols like his enemies do. **(Ps. 20:7) some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the LORD.**

Vs. 7-8) David has great joy because of the loving kindness of God. David thank God that He has not given him over "into the hand of the enemy". **Mk. 11:22) Have faith in God. Mat. 9:29) According to your faith be it done unto you.**

Prayer in Distress.

Vs. (9-14) have mercy upon me, O LORD, for I am in trouble: mine eye is consumed with grief, yea, my soul and my belly. (10) For my life is spent with grief, and my years with sighing: my strength faileth because of mine iniquity, and my bones are consumed. (11) I was a reproach among all mine enemies, but especially among my neighbors, and a fear to mine acquaintance: they that did see me without fled from me. (12) I am forgotten as a dead man out of mind: I am like a broken vessel. (13) For I have heard the slander of many: fear was on every side: while they took

counsel together against me, they devised to take away my life. Vs. (14) But I trusted in thee, O LORD: I said, Thou art my God.

In these verses we see a man, David that is in distress and is very troubled in his soul. He sees the enemy all around him and is attacking him on every side.

In **Vs. 9)** he cried to God for help as he had done many times before. He knows that he can trust **"EL SHADDAI"** one of the seven covenant names through which God revealed Himself to Israel. In Hebrew, it means "the All-Sufficient One" He is the Almighty God: the one that is more than enough to deliver him from his enemies.

Ps. 34:19) many are the afflictions of the righteous but the LORD comes to his rescue each time.

When we are under pressure and it appears as though we are being attacked from on every side and everything is falling apart, "watch what we say". **"We are to say what God's word promises us"!** God—the one who is more than enough—said He would not only be with you but He will never leave you or forsake you.

David trusted God and he asked Him for mercy: **Pro. 3:5) tells us to trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding.**

Satan and his demons are the accusers of the brothering and they accuse us day and night (that's their job). The devil is real. He is evil. He is out to destroy your life, but there is an answer: **"the LORD JESUS CHRIST.**

The devil (whom Jesus refers to in **John 10:10** as "the thief") comes for three reasons: to steal, kill and destroy.

Eph. 6:12) For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

Paul said of Satan, "we are not ignorant of his (Satan's) devices" (**2 Cor. 2:11**). Satan hates the truth. Jesus said of the devil in **John 8:44, "He (Satan)...abode not in the truth.**

We resist and overcome the devil by God's Spirit: (**Gal.16:25) this I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh... if we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.**

1 St. John 4:4) greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world.

Trust and Prayer

Vs. 15-18) My times are in thy hand: deliver me from the hand of mine enemies, and from them that persecute me. (16) Make thy face to shine upon thy servant: save me for thy mercies' sake. (17) Let me not be ashamed, O LORD; for I have called upon thee: let the wicked be ashamed, and let them be silent in the grave. (18) Let the lying lips be put to silence; which speak grievous things proudly and contemptuously against the righteous.

We see in these verses that David is making some strong demands on God. He is asking God the one who said in **Jere. 33:3) call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great things which thou knowest not.**

In **Vs.15)** David said to God my times are in your hands: he had confidence in God and His word "promises" which is the key to victory and success. **Heb. 10:35 NLT.) Says, do not throw away this confidence, trust in the LORD and remember the great reward it brings you.** One definition of confidence is "the quality or state of being certain." Another definition is "faith or belief that one will act in a right, proper, or effective way"

David ask God to save him for thy "His "mercies sake in **Vs.16)** Mercy means to be: gentle, tender, gracious, kind. Another definition is: forgiveness or kindness particularly to a wrong doer. **None of us deserved God's mercies!** However, **Ezra. 3:11) says, His God mercy endures forever.**

In **Vs. 17)** David called upon God as he had done many times before, after all he is the one who defeated the Lion the Bear and Goliath because of the anointing and his words of faith in "**JEHOVAH ROHI**" his Shepherd. David looked ahead to Jesus and said, "The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want" (**Psalm 23:1**). And Jesus said of Himself, "I am the good shepherd" (**John 10:14**).

David ask God not to let him be ashamed, But **Psalm 25:3) says, Yea, let none that wait on thee be ashamed: let them be ashamed which transgress without a cause.**

Song of Praise

Vs. (19-22) Oh how great is thy goodness, which thou hast laid up for them that fear thee; which thou hast wrought for them that trust in thee before the sons of men! (20) Thou shalt hide them in the secret of thy presence from the pride of

man: thou shalt keep them secretly in a pavilion from the strife of tongues. (21) Blessed be the LORD: for he hath shewed me his marvelous kindness in a strong city. (22) For I said in my haste, I am cut off from before thine eyes: nevertheless thou heard the voice of my supplications when I cried unto thee.

We can consider this section as David giving thanksgiving unto God. After David expressed his distress because of the wicked, he now in **Vs. 19)** speaks about the goodness of God. He is impressed by the "goodness" of God Himself that He has "stored up for those who fear Him. God's "goodness" include all blessings.

God blessings are for His own children; and these blessing are secured against any corruption, decay or loss. God Himself prepared and composed all blessings.

1 Cor. 2:9 as it is written: "No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has sconeived what God has prepared for those who love Him"

God blesses us "**His own**" because of His abundant mercy: **1 Pet. 1: 3-4) Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to His abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. (4) To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and fadeth not away, reserved in heaven.**

Those who take refuge: **Vs. 20)** who put their trust, who have faith in God (**JEHOVAH NISSI-Our Covering** He hides and protect "in the secret place of His presence.

God's presence not only gives light as we see in **Vs. 16)** but it is also a place of refuge. We can't see God, "but in His light" (under His loving influence) we see and understand His love in all that surrounds us.

We all have been under pressure or felt pressured which causes anxiety which is an attack from the enemy. In **Vs. 22)** David spoked in haste as we all have done. When we are under pressure we are to watch what we say and stay calm no matter what.

David quickly repented and put his trust back in **JEHOVAH ROHI- My Shepherd) Pro. 3:5(NKJV)** tells us," **trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not to your own understanding."**

Encouragement

(23) O love the LORD, all ye his saints: for the LORD preserveth the faithful, and plentifully rewardeth the proud doer. (24) Be of good courage, and he shall strengthen your heart, all ye that hope in the LORD.

David ends this psalm by encouraging us “**all His saints**” to love the LORD. We the saints, the blood washed ones, the righteous ones, the favored ones will flourish and be preserved because the LORD Himself will keep us.

Ps. 12: 7) Thou shall keep them, O LORD, thou shall preserve them from this generation forever.

1 Thess. 5:23-24) and the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. (24) Faithful is He that called you, who also will do it.

The success of proud people won't last forever. A proud doer is not modest in his pride so his punishment will not be modest.

Ps. 12:3-4) The LORD shall cut off all flattering lips, and the tongue that speak proud things: Who have said, with our tongue will we prevail; our lips are our own: who is lord over us?

God is worth loving with our whole heart. He has accepted us in favor and grace, and has also made us experience His favor and grace daily.

Ps. 68:19) Blessed be the Lord, who daily loads us with benefits, even the God of our salvation.

Eph. 1:6) to the praise of the glory of His grace, wherein He hath made us accepted in the beloved.

God is worth loving with all our being! And we can express this by submitting our entire being “spirit, soul and body to Him”.

We can also do this by offering up to Him “***The Prayer of Praise and Worship***” It is a prayer between you and the LORD, and all you are doing is telling Him how much you love Him. You are not asking Him for anything. You are sending up a sweet savor unto Him or adoration, appreciation and thanksgiving.

David tells us to have courage in **Vs. 24)** and we can do this by encouraging ourselves in the LORD. We can do this by doing **Eph. 5:19-21) Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord; (20) Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ; Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God.**

Then **EL SHADDY**- My Almighty God will strengthen our heart. He will fill our heart with joy because His Joy is our strength, our fortified place, our place of safety and protection. **Neh. 8:10) the joy of the Lord is my strength.**

