

- I) PS 17:1-5 INTRO: HEAR: A just cause O Lord, attend to my cry; give ear to my prayer that is not
 - a) This is a prayer of a righteous man
 - 1) Surrounded by people who oppose both him and God, David holds fast to God
- II) V1-2 HEAR: A just cause O Lord, attend to my cry; give ear to my prayer that is not from
 - a) NOTICE: Hear, attend to, give ear to me: You are the One who will vindicate me
 - 1) Three specific ways to make a single request: This highlights the urgency of his heart
 - 2) His prayer is sincere; he is not a hypocrite as he approaches the Lord in prayer
 - 3) Ps 24:3-4 Who may ascend into the hill of the LORD? Or who may stand in His holy place?
He who has clean hands and a pure heart
- III) V3 YOU: Have tested my heart; You have visited me in the night; You have tried me
 - a) David recognizes that God is the One who tests a persons heart
 - 1) Ps 26:2 Examine me, O LORD, and prove me; Try my mind and my heart.
 - 2) Ps 66:10 For You, O God, have tested us; You have refined us as silver is refined.
- IV) V4 -5CONCERNING: The works of men by the word of Your lips, I have kept myself from the paths
 - a) I have lived according to Your Word: this has kept me from following after evil
 - 1) Pr 1:10 My son, if sinners entice you, Do not consent.
 - 2) Eph 5:11 Have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them.
- V) V6-7 I HAVE: Called upon You for You will hear me O God; incline Your ear to me and hear my
 - a) I can pray with confidence because I know that You love me and will answer my prayer
 - 1) This boldness reveals the close relationship he has with the Lord
 - 2) Jer 33:3 Call to Me and I will answer
 - 3) Heb 4:16 Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.
- VI) V8 KEEP ME: As the apple of Your eye; hide me under the shadow of Your wings
 - a) He appeals to God's loving favor towards him and his protective interest in him
- VII) V9-12 FROM: The wicked who oppress me, from my deadly enemies who surround me
 - a) My enemies desire to destroy me: they speak proudly and are laying traps for me
- VIII) V13-14 ARISE O LORD: Confront him cast him down; deliver my life from the wicked
 - a) These people live like ordinary animals
 - 1) They eat until they are satisfied, they have children and leave inheritances to them
 - 2) YET: This is the totality of their life; they have no heavenly hope nor reward
 - 3) Lu 12:15-21 And He said to them, "Take heed and beware of covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses." Then He spoke a parable to them, saying: "The ground of a certain rich man yielded plentifully. And he thought within himself, saying, 'What shall I do, since I have no room to store my crops?' So he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build greater, and there I will store all my crops and my goods.' And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years; take your ease; eat, drink, and be merry.'" "But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?' So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God."
- I) V15 AS FOR ME: I will see Your face in righteousness, I shall be satisfied when I awake in

- a) When I am resurrected, I shall be conformed into Your image
 - 1) 1 Jn 3:2 Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.
 - 2) Ro 8:29 For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.
- II) PS 18:1-3 I: Will love You O Lord my strength. The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my
 - a) This psalm is a song of thanks to God for delivering David from the hand of his enemies
 - 1) God is his rock, fortress, deliverer, strength, shield, horn of salvation, stronghold
 - 2) These are all military metaphors, revealing God's protection in times of war
- III) DAVID: Loves the Lord, because God has been faithful to deliver him throughout his struggles
 - a) His is his rock because He gives stability, a fortress providing security, a deliverer providing relief, His strength provides endurance: He is a shield, keeping the enemy's weapons from penetrating his life, the horn of salvation providing victory over the enemy and a stronghold the enemy cannot enter
- IV) KEY: When David is under attack, he calls upon the Lord knowing God will deliver him
 - a) This is because he has put his trust in the Lord
 - 1) 2 Ti 4:18 And the Lord will deliver me from every evil work and preserve me for His heavenly kingdom. To Him be glory forever and ever. Amen!
- V) V4-6 THE PANGS: Of death encompassed me, and the floods of ungodliness made me afraid
 - a) He was in a critical situation and without God's help, he would have surely died
 - 1) He needed God's help
 - 2) 2 Co 1:8-10 For we do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, of our trouble which came to us in Asia: that we were burdened beyond measure, above strength, so that we despaired even of life. Yes, we had the sentence of death in ourselves, that we should not trust in ourselves but in God who raises the dead, who delivered us from so great a death, and does deliver us; in whom we trust that He will still deliver us,
- VI) V7-15 THEN: The earth shook and trembled; the foundations of the hills also quaked and were
 - a) NATURE: Is often seen as powerful tools in God's hand
 - 1) He is the God over all nature, and uses it as He desires
 - 2) Dt 33:26* "There is no one like the God of Jeshurun (Israel), Who rides the heavens to help you, And in His excellency on the clouds.
- VII) V16-19 HE: Sent from above, He took me; He drew me out of many waters. He delivered me
 - a) I was closed in, overwhelmed, over my head and drowning with enemies all around
 - 1) But my God became my support (staff) and delivered me into an expansive place
 - 2) He did this because He loves me
- VIII) V20-24 THE LORD: Rewarded me according to my righteousness; according to the cleanness
 - a) I have a relationship with God that causes me to desire fellowship with Him
 - 1) By faith in Him, I have walked in integrity, have kept His ways and followed His Word
 - 2) The result has been that God has blessed me as I have obeyed Him
 - 3) God has delivered me because He is faithful to His promises to do so
- I) THIS IS CLEARLY SEEN: In other places in the psalms

a) Ps 24:3-5 Who may ascend into the hill of the LORD? Or who may stand in His holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who has not lifted up his soul to an idol, nor sworn deceitfully. He shall receive blessing from the LORD, and righteousness from the God of his salvation.

II) V25-27 WITH: The merciful You will show Yourself merciful; with a blameless man You will

a) God sees the heart and rewards or judges based on the condition of the heart

1) The merciful, blameless and pure receive their reward based on their inner motives

2) Mt 5:7-8 Blessed are the merciful, For they shall obtain mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, For they shall see God.

III) BUT: Those who are devious will be treated according to their own hearts

a) The wicked will reap what they have sown in life

1) Ro 2:5-6 But in accordance with your hardness and your impenitent heart you are treasuring up for yourself wrath in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God, who "will render to each one according to his deeds":

2) Jas 2:13 Judgment is without mercy to the one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

IV) V28-30 FOR: You will light my lamp; the Lord my God will enlighten my darkness For by You

a) I am not stumbling in the dark: You are providing light for me to see any wall and scale it

1) I am given strength to be victorious against all my enemies at one time!

2) As I follow You, You lead me to victory and protect me in my battles

3) Ro 8:31 What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

V) V31-36 FOR: Who is God, except the Lord And who is a rock, except our God? It is God who arms

a) Spiritual warfare requires spiritual weapons: it is God who provides stability and strength

1) He equips me thoroughly to fight the battles I must fight and provides weapons of warfare

2) Eph 6:10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.

VI) V37-42 I HAVE: Pursued my enemies and overtaken them; neither did I turn back again

a) You do not keep sins prisoner, you put them to death

1) You aggressively overcome sin:

2) Ro 8:13 For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

3) Col 3:5 Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.

VII) V43-45 YOU: Have delivered me from the strivings of the people; you have made me the head of

a) TWO APPLICATIONS: God exalts the one who is sold out to Him

1) You do not have to fight for position, God gives you it when you simply serve Him

2) Ps 75:6-7 For exaltation comes neither from the east Nor from the west nor from the south. But God is the Judge: He puts down one, and exalts another.

I) SECOND: This applies to the rule of Messiah

a) Lu 1:33 He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end

b) Re 11:15 Then the seventh angel sounded: And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdoms of this world have become *the kingdoms* of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!"

II) V46-49 THE LORD LIVES! Blessed be my Rock Let the God of my salvation be exalted

a) David praises God and does not glory in his own achievements

1) David fought many battles, but always knew that God gives victory

2) Dt 20:4 "The Lord your God *is* He who goes with you, to fight for you against your enemies, to save you.

3) Phil 4:13

4) Ro 8:37 In all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.

III) V50 GREAT: Deliverance He gives to His king, and shows mercy to His anointed, to David and

a) God not only gives victory to David, but to his descendants also

1) Our children can also learn the ways of God and will also be protected by Him

2) Ps 103:17 But the mercy of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting On those who fear Him, And His righteousness to children's children