

## Psalm 61

To the Chief Musician. On a stringed instrument. A Psalm of David.

**To Jeduthun:** A Levite whose descendant Obed-Edom was a gatekeeper at the time David brought the Ark of the Covenant to Jerusalem

### Abiding in the Rock

**1** Hear my cry, O God; Attend to my prayer. **2** From the end of the earth I will cry to You, When my heart is overwhelmed; Lead me to the rock that is higher than I. **3** For You have been a shelter for me, A strong tower from the enemy. **4** I will abide in Your tabernacle forever; I will trust in the shelter of Your wings. Selah **5** For You, O God, have heard my vows; You have given me the heritage of those who fear Your name. **6** You will prolong the king's life, His years as many generations. **7** He shall abide before God forever. Oh, prepare mercy and truth, which may preserve him! **8** So I will sing praise to Your name forever, That I may daily perform my vows.

### David's is Overwhelmed/Turned Inside Out

- **V1-2 Hear my cry:** David feels distanced from God

Can't think his way out of this  
Lead me to the Rock that is Higher than I

**1 Samuel 23:25** [Saul is near so David] went down to **the rock**...And when Saul heard that, he pursued David ...**26** Then Saul went on one side of the mountain, and David and his men on the other side of the mountain. So David made haste to get away from Saul, for **Saul and his men were encircling David** ...**27** But a messenger came to Saul, saying, "**Hurry and come, for the Philistines** have invaded the land!" **28** Therefore Saul returned from pursuing David... so [David and his men] called that place the **Rock of Escape**.

### God is our Rock of Escape

**1 Corinthians 10:1** No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will **not allow you to be tempted** beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also **make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.**

- **V3 Jesus is our Shelter/Strong Tower**

**Proverbs 18:10** The name of the Lord is a strong tower; The righteous run to it and are safe.

- **V4 I will abide:** Also v7
- **V5-6 Promise:** David's Heritage of those who fear God's Name

You will have a descendent on the throne forever  
Jesus the Son of David will rule the Everlasting Kingdom

- **V7 I will abide:** Stay put

**John 15:4 Abide in Me,** and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it **abides in the vine,** neither can you, unless you abide in Me. **5** "I am the vine, you are the branches. He who **abides in Me,** and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do

nothing ...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. 8 By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.

- **David chose** to abide in God even in the midst of trials
- **Grab hold of God's Provision:** Rock/Shelter/Strong Tower

### **Prepare me with Your Mercy and Truth. Ready to...**

- |                               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| 1. <b>Accept God's Mercy</b>  | No condemnation. Forward spite of self/situation |
| 2. <b>Walk in God's Truth</b> | Know God's will and do it/No self-pity           |
- **Begins** Crying out/Distant
  - **Ends** Ready to praise v8

**Ready to get out of his own way:** See Rock greater than himself

## **Psalm 62**

To the Chief Musician. To Jeduthun. A Psalm of David.

### **Calm Resolve to Wait Expectantly**

**1** Truly my soul silently waits for God; From Him comes my salvation. **2** He only is my rock and my salvation; He is my defense; I shall not be greatly moved. **3** How long will you attack a man? You shall be slain, all of you, Like a leaning wall and a tottering fence. **4** They only consult to cast him down from his high position; They delight in lies; They bless with their mouth, But they curse inwardly. Selah **5** My soul, wait silently for God alone, For my expectation is from Him. **6** He only is my rock and my salvation; He is my defense; I shall not be moved. **7** In God is my salvation and my glory; The rock of my strength, And my refuge, is in God. **8** Trust in Him at all times, you people; Pour out your heart before Him; God is a refuge for us. Selah **9** Surely men of low degree are a vapor, Men of high degree are a lie; If they are weighed on the scales, They are altogether lighter than vapor. **10** Do not trust in oppression, Nor vainly hope in robbery; If riches increase, Do not set your heart on them. **11** God has spoken once, Twice I have heard this: That power belongs to God. **12** Also to You, O Lord, belongs mercy; For You render to each one according to his work.

The natural mind is ever prone to reason, when we **ought to believe**; to be at work, when we **ought to be quiet**...[Müller]

- **V1-2 Surrendered Silence:** Waiting not hopelessly but expectantly
  1. His Rock
  2. His Salvation
  3. His Defense

We also wait expectantly...

**Romans 8:23** ... we also who have the first fruits of the Spirit... groan within ourselves, **eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body.**

- God has given us a sip...

**2 Corinthians 1:22** [God] has sealed us/given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.

**Ephesians 1:13b** ...having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise 14 who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.

**Ephesians 4:30** And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

**1 Corinthians 2:9** ...Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him. 10 **But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit...**the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God.

- **Vv3-4** David of his enemies...
  1. **Doomed** Likened to a Leaning Wall/Tottering Fence
  2. **Deceitful** Feign friendship only to get more ammo
  3. **Dissemblers** Hide real feelings/intentions pretending to have different ones

Bless us to our face...Inwardly curse us  
The God of Truth does not take well to hypocrites

- Leaning Walls/Tottering Fences ready to fall...

**Boastful persecutors** bulge/swell with pride, but they are only as a bulging wall ready to fall in a heap; they lean forward to seize their prey, but it is only as a tottering fence inclines to the earth upon which it will soon lie at length. [Spurgeon]

- **Vv5-7 Trusting God alone** I am invincible
  - V2** I shall not be *greatly* moved
  - V3** I shall not be moved [at all] confidence growing
- **V8... Trust in God at all times.** IOWs When its easy and hard
- **V9** Men are a vapor...

**Psalms 39:5b**...Certainly every man at his best state is but vapor 11... You make his beauty melt away like a moth; Surely every man is vapor. Selah

**James 4:14** ...what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away.

**1 Peter 1:24** All flesh is as grass, And all the glory of man as the flower of the grass. The grass withers, And its flower falls away, 25 But the word of the Lord endures forever.

- **Vv 10-12 Heard once, twice:** IOWs I have heard God clearly on this...
  1. Don't seek after ill-gotten gains
  2. If you have riches **don't trust in them**

Whether rightly or wrongly won, they are wrongly used if they are trusted in.[Maclaren]

**Impossible to serve God and money:** Only get one God

**Luke 12:15b** ... one's life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses.

**1 Timothy 6:10** ...the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their **greediness**, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

- **Power belongs to God:** Riches bring a false sense of power
- **Mercy belongs to God:** Yet no mercy to those who do not repent

**Don't find out you missed the point of life when it's too late...**  
He will render to all according to their work...

**Matthew 16:26**... what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give **in exchange for his soul?**

## Psalm 63

A Psalm of David when he was in the wilderness of Judah

### Joy of Making God our God

**1** O God, You are my God; Early will I seek You; My soul thirsts for You; My flesh longs for You In a dry and thirsty land Where there is no water. **2** So I have looked for You in the sanctuary, To see Your power and Your glory. **3** Because Your lovingkindness is better than life, My lips shall praise You. **4** Thus I will bless You while I live; I will lift up my hands in Your name. **5** My soul shall be satisfied as with marrow and fatness, And my mouth shall praise You with joyful lips. **6** When I remember You on my bed, I meditate on You in the night watches. **7** Because You have been my help, Therefore in the shadow of Your wings I will rejoice. **8** My soul follows close behind You; Your right hand upholds me. **9** But those who seek my life, to destroy it, Shall go into the lower parts of the earth. **10** They shall fall by the sword; They shall be a portion for jackals. **11** But the king shall rejoice in God; Everyone who swears by Him shall glory; But the mouth of those who speak lies shall be stopped.

Among the [early] Christians it was decreed and ordained that no day should pass without the **public singing of this psalm**. [Spurgeon]

- **Setting:** David in wilderness: Hunted by Saul or Absalom
- **V1** Oh God You are **My God**
  1. **The God I seek eagerly in the morning**
  2. **The God who my soul thirsts for** in this dry land

### My Soul Thirsts for You God...

**Psalm 42:2** My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.

**Matthew 5:6** Blessed are those who hunger/thirst for righteousness, For they shall be filled.

**Psalm 27:4** One thing I have desired of the Lord, That will I seek: That **I may dwell in the house of the Lord All the days of my life, To behold the beauty of the Lord, And to inquire in His temple.**

## You are *my* God

- **Jacob has issues...**

1. Just deceived his father
2. Just ticked-off his brother/Left his mother
3. On his way to Uncle Laban's to find a wife
4. Can't find a pillow...

**Genesis 28:10** [Jacob has issues] Now Jacob went out from Beersheba and went toward Haran. 11 So he came to a certain place and stayed there all night, because the sun had set. And he took one of the stones of that place and put it at his head, and he lay down in that place to sleep. 12 Then he dreamed, and behold, a ladder was set up on the earth, and its top reached to heaven; and there the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. 13 And behold, the Lord stood above it and said: "**I am the Lord God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac**; the land on which you lie I will give to you and your descendants...**16** Then Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, "Surely the Lord is in this place, and I did not know it." 17 And he was afraid and said, "**How awesome is this place!** This is none other than the house of God, and this is the **gate [portal] of heaven!**" [c.f. John 1:51] ...**20** Then Jacob made a vow, saying, "**If God will be with me**, and keep me in this way that I am going, and give me bread to eat and clothing to put on, 21 so that I come back to my father's house in peace, **then the Lord shall be my God.** [7 Chapters later God would bring him back. **But...**]

The God of Abraham and Isaac will become Jacob's God  
Not before Jacob wrestled God...Not before he was wounded by God

**Genesis 32:22** And he arose that night...and crossed over the ford of Jabbok... 24 Then **Jacob was left alone**; and a Man wrestled with him until the breaking of day. 25 Now when [the Man] saw that He did not prevail against [Jacob], [the Man] touched the socket of his hip; and the socket of Jacob's hip was out of joint as He wrestled with [Jacob]. 26 And [the Man] said, "Let Me go, for the day breaks." But [Jacob] said, "**I will not let You go unless You bless me!**" 27 So He said to him, "What is your name?" He said, "Jacob." 28 And He said, "Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel; for you have struggled with God and with men, and have prevailed." 29 Then Jacob asked, saying, "Tell me Your name, I pray." And He said, "Why is it that you ask about My name?" And [the Man] blessed him there. 30 So Jacob called the name of the place Peniel: "For **I have seen God face to face**, and my life is preserved." 31 Just as he crossed over Peniel **the sun rose on him, and he limped on his hip.**

- What does it take before **the God becomes our God?**

Sometimes it takes struggling w/God...Sometimes being humbled by God  
Sometimes both

We come to God on His terms not ours and we need to come to terms with that. [NJC]

It is doubtful whether God can bless a man greatly until He has hurt him deeply. [AW Tozer]

- V1 God is David's God. Not only the God of his fathers.
- **Vv2-3**

Your Loving Kindness is Better than Life!

**1 John 1:19** We love Him because He first loved us.

- **Vv 4-8** David responds to God's lovingkindness to him
  1. I will bless You
  2. I will lift my hands to You
  3. I will remember You on my bed

**Psalm 42:8...in the night His song shall be with me—** A prayer to the **God of my life.**

4. I will rejoice in the shadow of Your wings
  5. My soul follows close: After God's own heart
- **Vv 9-11** When you make my enemies **jackal meal**. Final scavengers of war

**Even in the Wilderness I will Rejoice in My God**

## Psalm 64

To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David.

### From Oppressed to Rejoicing to Faith

**1** Hear my voice, O God, in my meditation; Preserve my life from fear of the enemy. **2** Hide me from the secret plots of the wicked, From the rebellion of the workers of iniquity, **3** Who sharpen their tongue like a sword, And bend their bows to shoot their arrows—bitter words, **4** That they may shoot in secret at the blameless; Suddenly they shoot at him and do not fear. **5** They encourage themselves in an evil matter; They talk of laying snares secretly; They say, "Who will see them?" **6** They devise iniquities: "We have perfected a shrewd scheme." Both the inward thought and the heart of man are deep. **7** But God shall shoot at them with an arrow; Suddenly they shall be wounded. **8** So He will make them stumble over their own tongue; All who see them shall flee away. **9** All men shall fear, And shall declare the work of God; For they shall wisely consider His doing. **10** The righteous shall be glad in the Lord, and trust in Him. And all the upright in heart shall glory.

- **V1 Hear my voice...**NOTE not to save from enemy but from fear

Preserve my life from **fear**  
David prayed against being paralyzed by fear of man

- **Vv2-6** Devise iniquities/Perfect a shrewd scheme
  1. **Plot Secretly:** Our enemy studies us
  2. **Uses demons/people** to collect data
  3. **Knows our buttons/**How and when to push them

An open liar is an angel compared with this demon [Saul/Absalom]. Vipers and cobras are harmless and amiable creatures compared with such a reptile. The devil himself might blush at being the father of so base an offspring. [Spurgeon]

They search the devil's skull for new inventions; who is ready enough to lend them his seven heads to plot and his ten horns to push at good people." [Trapp]

**2 Samuel 22:27** With the pure You will show Yourself pure; And **with the devious You will show Yourself shrewd.**

- **Vv7-9 But God suddenly...** [things were going so swimmingly]
  1. **Wound them**/Shut them up
  2. **Frighten them** to retreat/fear
  3. **Cause them** to **re-consider ever messing with God's kid again**

God will intervene on the behalf of His kids

**If...**we get out of His way and leave Him room [Rom 12:19]

- **V10 Victory Party:** Oppression leading to Rejoicing leading to Faith in those who see

**The righteous will rejoice/grow in faith as they see You act on our behalf**

## Psalm 65

To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David. A Song

### Praise to Him Who Visits the Earth

**1** Praise is awaiting You, O God, in Zion; And to You the vow shall be performed. **2** O You who hear prayer, To You all flesh will come. **3** Iniquities prevail against me; As for our transgressions, You will provide atonement for them. **4** Blessed is the man You choose, And cause to approach You, That he may dwell in Your courts. We shall be satisfied with the goodness of Your house, Of Your holy temple. **5** By awesome deeds in righteousness You will answer us, O God of our salvation, You who are the confidence of all the ends of the earth, And of the far-off seas; **6** Who established the mountains by His strength, Being clothed with power; **7** You who still the noise of the seas, The noise of their waves, And the tumult of the peoples. **8** They also who dwell in the farthest parts are afraid of Your signs; You make the outgoings of the morning and evening rejoice. **9** You visit the earth and water it, You greatly enrich it; The river of God is full of water; You provide their grain, For so You have prepared it. **10** You water its ridges abundantly, You settle its furrows; You make it soft with showers, You bless its growth. **11** You crown the year with Your goodness, And Your paths drip with abundance. **12** They drop on the pastures of the wilderness, And the little hills rejoice on every side. **13** The pastures are clothed with flocks; The valleys also are covered with grain; They shout for joy, they also sing.

- **Possible Setting:** Harvest festival. Feast of Tabernacles? in the fall
- **V1-3 Praise for God's Atonement:** At-one-meant

**God will provide Atonement:** A way for us to be One with Him  
The Cross of Jesus Christ/His Blood

**John 1:29b ...Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!**

**1 John 1:7 ... the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin...**

- **Atonement:** One with God after being separated at the fall/paid in full
- **V4 Blessed** is the man/woman who has applied the Blood/Able to approach God
  1. **Dwelling** in His courts
  2. **Satisfied** w/His goodness

**There is no lack of anything good in the presence of God**

**Psalms 36:8** They are abundantly satisfied with the fullness of Your house, And You give them drink from the river of Your pleasures.

- **Vv5-8...**

**You answer our Prayer with Awesome Deeds**

Prayer doesn't change God it changes me? [Faith-breaker by CS Lewis]

By **awesome deeds in righteousness You will answer us**

- **BTW Only God is Awesome...**[able to incite awe]
- **He is...**
  1. **Confidence** of all the Earth [only hope. Lit. Trust/Refuge/Security]
  2. **Creator** who established Mountains
  3. **Awesome God** who is **Clothed in Power** and **stills the seas...**

**Matthew 8:24** [Jesus and boys in boat] And suddenly a great tempest arose on the sea, so that the boat was covered with the waves. But He was asleep. 25 Then His disciples came to Him and awoke Him, saying, "Lord, save us! We are perishing!" 26 But He said to them, "Why are you fearful, O you of little faith?" Then He arose and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm. 27 So the men marveled, saying, "**Who can this be, that even the winds and the sea obey Him?**"

NASA says an average hurricane can release as much energy as 10,000 nuclear bombs. Yet God can and does still the noise of the seas, the noise of their waves. [Guzik]

Sea/Roar speak typologically of Gentile/Pagan Nations raging  
Who can this be? This is Jesus the Awesome God

**Isaiah 17:12** Woe to the multitude of many people Who make a noise like the roar of the seas, And to the rushing of nations That make a rushing like the rushing of mighty waters! 13 The nations will rush like the **rushing of many waters; But God will rebuke them and they will flee far away**, And be chased like the chaff of the mountains before the wind, Like a rolling thing before the whirlwind.



▪ **Vv9-13 You visit the earth! God visits the earth 3x**

1. **Genesis** God's Implementing/Sustaining of His incredible creation
2. **1<sup>st</sup> Coming** 2000 years ago rejected as King by most. Atonement finished
3. **2<sup>nd</sup> Coming** Judge Christ rejecting world/Save Israel. **Usher in Kingdom**

**The River of God will Forever be Flowing with Living Water  
Every Year will be Crowned with Goodness for Eternity**