

Prayer for Help, and Praise for Its Answer.

A Psalm of David.

To You, O Lord, I call;

My rock, do not be deaf to me,

For if You are silent to me,

I will become like those who go down to the pit.

² Hear the voice of my supplications when I cry to You for help,

When I lift up my hands toward ^[a]Your holy sanctuary.

³ Do not drag me away with the wicked

And with those who work iniquity,

Who speak peace with their neighbors,

While evil is in their hearts.

⁴ Requite them according to their work and according to the evil of their practices;

Requite them according to the deeds of their hands;

Repay them their ^[b]recompense.

⁵ Because they do not regard the works of the Lord

Nor the deeds of His hands,

He will tear them down and not build them up.

⁶ Blessed be the Lord,

Because He has heard the voice of my supplication.

⁷ The Lord is my strength and my shield;

My heart trusts in Him, and I am helped;

Therefore my heart exults,

And with my song I shall thank Him.

⁸ The Lord is ^[c]their strength,

And He is a ^[d]saving defense to His anointed.

⁹ Save Your people and bless Your inheritance;

Be their shepherd also, and carry them forever.

We will use five tools on our expedition that are built around five questions

What questions were provoked within you?

Did anything confuse you?

Did anything move you emotionally?

Did God instruct you to do something?

Did you gain any insight into God's character?

Paul's Questions and incites

1. Why does David ask God not to be deaf to him?
2. What are we conveying to God when we use the term 'Oh Lord'?

3. David says in his prayer 'to you', who else could David have been speaking to other than the Lord?
4. What does it mean for the Lord to be your rock?
5. What does it mean that God becomes deaf to your prayers?
6. David had lived his life in a companionship with God. The thought that He would be silent filled David with dread.
7. He likens it to going down to a pit.
8. Have you ever experienced this isolation from the Lord?
9. David asked God to hear the voice of his supplication. How does that differ from 'Oh Lord'?
10. Why do we lift up our hands in prayer to the Lord?
11. Where is God's holy sanctuary?
12. Who are the wicked workers, the hypocrites and the schemers?
13. David has no problem in seeing the wicked dealt with severely by God. How about you?
14. What is it to requite? - Make appropriate return for wrong doing.
15. What is recompense? – Payment for all the bad that has been done.
16. Why would people not regard the works of God's hand?
17. When God tears down you are not coming back.
18. What does it mean to bless the Lord and how can we do it?
19. David rejoices that his prayers and supplications are heard.
20. How does God protect those He loves?
21. What part of you is trusting God when David describes his heart?
22. Do you know how to exalt God from the heart?
23. Singing comes out of a heart full of gratitude.
24. Why aren't all anointed by God?
25. What is it to be anointed?
26. Who are 'the inheritance of God'?
27. If God is your shepherd what is the benefit?