

Betrayed by Beneficiaries

2020 Summer Series In Psalms

Psalm 54 (ESV) — *To the choirmaster: with stringed instruments. A Maskil of David, when the Ziphites went and told Saul, "Is not David hiding among us?"* **1** O God, save me by your name, and vindicate me by your might. **2** O God, hear my prayer; give ear to the words of my mouth. **3** For strangers have risen against me; ruthless men seek my life; they do not set God before themselves. Selah **4** Behold, God is my helper; the Lord is the upholder of my life. **5** He will return the evil to my enemies; in your faithfulness put an end to them. **6** With a freewill offering I will sacrifice to you; I will give thanks to your name, O Lord, for it is good. **7** For he has delivered me from every trouble, and my eye has looked in triumph on my enemies.

I. Crying out in trouble (Verses 1-3)

A. "O God" (1&2)

Hebrews 4:14–16 (ESV) — **14** Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. **15** For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. **16** Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Exodus 3:7 (ESV) — **7** Then the LORD said, "I have surely seen the affliction of my people who are in Egypt and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters. I know their sufferings,

Isaiah 53:3 (ESV) — **3** He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

B. Save me by your name (1)

Proverbs 18:10 (ESV) — **10** The name of the LORD is a strong tower; the righteous man runs into it and is safe.

Exodus 3:13–14 (ESV) — **13** Then Moses said to God, "If I come to the people of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" **14** God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." And he said, "Say this to the people of Israel: 'I AM has sent me to you.'"

Exodus 34:5–7 (ESV) — **5** The LORD descended in the cloud and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the LORD. **6** The LORD passed before him and proclaimed, "The LORD, the LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, **7** keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children and the children's children, to the third and the fourth generation."

1 Samuel 17:45 (ESV) — **45** Then David said to the Philistine, "You come to me with a sword and with a spear and with a javelin, but I come to you in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied.

Psalm 138:2 (ESV) — **2** I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness, for you have exalted above all things your name and your word.

C. Vindicate me by your might (1)

Psalm 62:11 (ESV) — **11** Once God has spoken; twice have I heard this: that power belongs to God,

Exodus 9:16 (ESV) — **16** But for this purpose I have raised you up, to show you my power, so that my name may be proclaimed in all the earth.

2 Samuel 22:33 (ESV) — **33** This God is my strong refuge and has made my way blameless.

D. Hear my prayer (2)

Isaiah 65:24 (ESV) — **24** Before they call I will answer; while they are yet speaking I will hear.

Matthew 6:7–8 (ESV) — **7** "And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words. **8** Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

Psalm 4:1 (ESV) — **1** Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness! You have given me relief when I was in distress. Be gracious to me and hear my prayer!

Psalm 84:8 (ESV) — **8** O LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; give ear, O God of Jacob! Selah

Psalm 143:1 (ESV) — **1** Hear my prayer, O LORD; give ear to my pleas for mercy! In your faithfulness answer me, in your righteousness!

E. Here's the situation (3)

II. Affirmation of faith (Verses 4-5)

A. Behold (4) = Don't miss this! Don't forget this!

B. God is my helper (4)

Psalm 46:1 (ESV) — 1 God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Psalm 10:14 (ESV) — 14 But you do see, for you note mischief and vexation, that you may take it into your hands; to you the helpless commits himself; you have been the helper of the fatherless.

Hebrews 13:5-6 (ESV) — 5 Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." **6** So we can confidently say, "The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?"

C. Vengeance belongs to the Lord (5)

Deuteronomy 32:43 (ESV) — 43 "Rejoice with him, O heavens; bow down to him, all gods, for he avenges the blood of his children and takes vengeance on his adversaries. He repays those who hate him and cleanses his people's land."

Psalm 58:10 (ESV) — 10 The righteous will rejoice when he sees the vengeance; he will bathe his feet in the blood of the wicked.

Psalm 58:10 (ESV) — 10 The righteous will rejoice when he sees the vengeance; he will bathe his feet in the blood of the wicked.

Isaiah 59:16-17 (ESV) — 16 He saw that there was no man, and wondered that there was no one to intercede; then his own arm brought him salvation, and his righteousness upheld him. **17** He put on righteousness as a breastplate, and a helmet of salvation on his head; he put on garments of vengeance for clothing, and wrapped himself in zeal as a cloak.

Isaiah 61:1-3 (ESV) — 1 The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; **2** to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; **3** to grant to those who mourn in Zion—to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit; that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he may be glorified.

Romans 12:19-21 (ESV) — 19 Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." **20** To the contrary, "if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head." **21** Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

D. Dependence upon God's faithfulness (5)

Lamentations 3:21-23 (ESV) — 21 But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: **22** The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; **23** they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

Deuteronomy 7:9 (ESV) — 9 Know therefore that the LORD your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations,

Psalm 36:5 (ESV) — 5 Your steadfast love, O LORD, extends to the heavens, your faithfulness to the clouds.

Psalm 89:1-2 (ESV) — 1 I will sing of the steadfast love of the LORD, forever; with my mouth I will make known your faithfulness to all generations. **2** For I said, "Steadfast love will be built up forever; in the heavens you will establish your faithfulness."

Revelation 19:11 (ESV) — 11 Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! The one sitting on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he judges and makes war.

III. Planning for gratitude (Verses 6-7)

A. A freewill offering of thanksgiving (6)

Psalm 116:12-14 (ESV) — 12 What shall I render to the LORD for all his benefits to me? **13** I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD, **14** I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people.

Leviticus 22:18 (ESV) — 18 "Speak to Aaron and his sons and all the people of Israel and say to them, When any one of the house of Israel or of the sojourners in Israel presents a burnt offering as his offering, for any of their vows or freewill offerings that they offer to the LORD,

2 Samuel 24:24 (ESV) — 24 But the king said to Araunah, “No, but I will buy it from you for a price. I will not offer burnt offerings to the LORD my God that cost me nothing.” So David bought the threshing floor and the oxen for fifty shekels of silver.

Romans 12:1–2 (ESV) — 1 I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. **2** Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

B. Rehearsal of God’s past blessing (7)

Exodus 15:1–2 (ESV) — 1 Then Moses and the people of Israel sang this song to the LORD, saying, “I will sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously; the horse and his rider he has thrown into the sea. **2** The LORD is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation; this is my God, and I will praise him, my father’s God, and I will exalt him.

2 Timothy 1:9–10 (ESV) — 9 who saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, **10** and which now has been manifested through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel,

Jeremiah 32:17 (ESV) — 17 ‘Ah, Lord GOD! It is you who have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and by your outstretched arm! Nothing is too hard for you.

Romans 8:31–32 (ESV) — 31 What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? **32** He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?