

## The Helper & Sustainer of My Soul

Psalm 54 (Page 414-15 in the BB)

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### Introduction

**For the choir director; on stringed instruments. A Maskil of David, when the Ziphites came and said to Saul, “Is not David hiding himself among us?”**

Ziphites - 1 Samuel 23:15-29 (See also 1 Samuel 26)

Ziph was a city in the south part of the territory of Judah. (Joshua 15:24); also, the city of Keilah was a city in the territory of Judah (Joshua 15:44) which is mentioned in 1 Samuel 23:1-13).

Both the people of Keilah and the people of Ziph were willing to turn David over to Saul.

### Prayer for Deliverance and Vindication (vv. 1-2)

**<sup>1</sup>O God, save me, by Your name, (see v. 6)**

**And vindicate me by your power.**

Save me...vindicate me...

“by Your name” - The name of God (LORD/Yahweh, v.6; Ex. 3:13-15; 6:1-8; 33:18-19; 34:5-7) refers to His nature or His character. God is jealous for the reputation of His great name (Psalm 23:3)

See also Psalm 9:10

“by Your power/might” – associated with God’s name (Ex. 15);

The prayer of Jehoshaphat, “and he said, “O LORD, the God of our fathers, are You not God in the heavens? And are You not ruler over all the kingdoms of the nations? Power and might are in Your hand so that no one can stand against You. (2 Chron. 20:6)

The 2<sup>nd</sup> appeal is for God to hear and act on his behalf.

**<sup>2</sup>O God, hear my prayer;**

**Give ear to the words of my mouth.**

**The Occasion for Prayer (v. 3)**

**<sup>3</sup>For strangers have risen against me**

**And violent men have sought my life;**

**They have not set God before them.**

Psalm 86:14

**<sup>14</sup>O God, arrogant men have risen up against me,  
And a band of violent men have sought my life,  
And they have not set You before them.**

“They have not set God before them”

If they had set God before them they would have sought God and followed His ways. But this they did not do.

Illustration: Matthew 16:21-23

v. 23 “But He turned and said to Peter, “Get behind Me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to Me; for you are not setting your mind on God’s interests, but man’s.”

**Selah.**

**Affirmation of Faith (vv. 4-5)**

**<sup>4</sup>Behold,**

**God is my helper; (Ps. 46:1)**

**The Lord is the sustainer/upholder of my soul.**

“Helper...sustainer...”

**<sup>5</sup>He will recompense the evil to my foes;**

David trusts in the Lord to bring back on his enemies what they have intended to do to him.

**Destroy them in Your faithfulness.**

This is an appeal for God to act according to His character and His promises to His people.

### **Thanksgiving for Deliverance and Vindication (vv. 6-7)**

**<sup>6</sup>Willingly I will sacrifice to You;  
I will give thanks to Your name, O LORD, for it is good.**

See v. 1; Psalms 50:14-15; 52:9

**<sup>7</sup>For He has delivered me from all trouble,  
And my eye has looked *with satisfaction* upon my enemies.**

Psalm 46:1; 50:15

### **Application:**

Set God before you every day and throughout your day.

Pray when you are in trouble.

Remember who God is for you. Helper and sustainer.

Don't forget to give God thanks for His faithfulness.