

Psalm 28

1:1 A Psalm of David. Unto thee will I cry, O LORD my rock; be not silent to me: lest, if thou be silent to me, I become like them that go down into the pit. 2 Hear the voice of my supplications, when I cry unto thee, when I lift up my hands toward thy holy oracle.

3 Draw me not away with the wicked, and with the workers of iniquity, which speak peace to their neighbours, but mischief is in their hearts. 4 Give them according to their deeds, and according to the wickedness of their endeavours: give them after the work of their hands; render to them their desert. 5 Because they regard not the works of the LORD, nor the operation of his hands, he shall destroy them, and not build them up.

6 Blessed be the LORD, because he hath heard the voice of my supplications. 7 The LORD is my strength and my shield; my heart trusted in him, and I am helped: therefore my heart greatly rejoiceth; and with my song will I praise him. 8 The LORD is their strength, and he is the saving strength of his anointed.

9 Save thy people, and bless thine inheritance: feed them also, and lift them up for ever.

Introduction notes:

1. The inspired headings tells us that David wrote this Psalm.
2. Since Ps. 28 has some similarities to Ps. 27 it is considered from the same time-frame as David's early reign as king in Jerusalem and the Philistine army attempting to destroy him (2 Sam. 15:17ff.)
 - Strength & Salvation (28:8 with 27:1)
 - Holy Oracle/Temple (28:2 with 27:4)
 - "hear" (28:2 with 27:7).

3. This Psalm focuses on answered prayers and divine justice.

Outline:

- A. David's Prayer for Intervention (vv.1-2)
- B. David's Prayer for Justice (vv.3-5)
- B.' David's Prayer Answered (vv.6-8)
- A.' David's Prayer of Intercession (v.9)

Observations:

1. David looked at Jehovah as His "rock" – a military leader like David trusts in God as His place of defense or refuge (Ps. 18:2).
2. God's silence in v.1 can be equated to his abandonment (Ps. 22:1). The pit is equated to sheol (hell) – the ultimate place of divine abandonment (22:29).
3. Three words that demonstrate David's dependence upon the LORD – "supplications"; "cry"; "lift up my hands."
 - The lifting up of the hands is towards the Tabernacle/Temple – not like the modern-day practice.
4. David prayer against his enemies was for vindication of his innocence. God destroyed his enemies (2 Sam. 5:20).
5. David's prayer turned to praise when God answered them.
6. David's prayers was not just personal but also national (as king). David acknowledge God to be Israel's Shepherd ("feed them also"). David had a monarchaic-theocracy. World leaders would do well to acknowledge God.

Lesson: LORD, be not silent to me.

Psalm 29

1 A Psalm of David. Give unto the LORD, O ye mighty, give unto the LORD glory and strength.
2 Give unto the LORD the glory due unto his name; worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.

3 The voice of the LORD is upon the waters: the God of glory thundereth: the LORD is upon many waters. 4 The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty. 5 The voice of the LORD breaketh the cedars; yea, the LORD breaketh the cedars of Lebanon. 6 He maketh them also to skip like a calf; Lebanon and Sirion like a young unicorn. 7 The voice of the LORD divideth the flames of fire. 8 The voice of the LORD shaketh the wilderness; the LORD shaketh the wilderness of Kadesh. 9 The voice of the LORD maketh the hinds to calve, and discovereth the forests: and in his temple doth every one speak of his glory.

10 The LORD sitteth upon the flood; yea, the LORD sitteth King for ever. 11 The LORD will give strength unto his people; the LORD will bless his people with peace.

Introduction notes:

1. The inspired headings point to the Davidic authorship of this Psalm.
2. David instructs us to think of Jehovah as King who is revealed in nature.

Outline:

- I. David's Praise for the LORD's majesty (vv.1-2)
- II. David's Declaration of the LORD's voice (vv.3-9)
- III. David's Praise for the LORD's sovereignty (vv.10-11)

Observations:

1. God, at times, uses the force of nature to defeat His enemies (Nah. 1:3).
2. If Ps. 28 was about the LORD not being silent – Ps. 29 is about the voice of the LORD – God is indeed NOT silent (voice is used 7X).
3. Sirion (Mt. Hermon).
4. Commands of worship – “give” and “worship” the LORD. (Everyone is required to worship God – Angels, men, and all of creation).
5. “beauty of holiness” – refers to the garments of the priests (Exo. 28:13-28; 42; 39:8-21, 28). God deserves to be worshipped in reverence.
6. God's voice is powerful and full of majesty (Ps. 19:1-3)
7. “Mother Nature” is not in control. Environmentalists will have to deal with the LORD.

Lesson: The voice of the LORD is over nature.