

THE BOOK OF PSALMS
GOD IS FOR ME
PSALM 56; Cf. 1 SAMUEL 21:10-14

Introduction

From the heading of this **PSALM**, we find that it was written by **DAVID** during the time in his life when he was on the run from **SAUL** as recorded in **1 SAMUEL 21:10-14!** He fled to a place that not even **SAUL** would have thought to look for him! That's because he went to **GATH**, the **PHILISTINE** city where **GOLIATH** was from! WHAT? Yeah, he did!

We are not told why **DAVID** chose to flee there, but as I said, not even **SAUL** would have thought to look there because **DAVID** had the notoriety of being the one who killed **GOLIATH**, their champion!

And get this, **DAVID** had just received **GOLIATH'S SWORD** that **DAVID** used to cut off **GOLIATH'S** head. **AHIMELECH** the **PRIEST** in **NOB** gave it to him. That was probably a very recognizable sword in **GATH!**

The **SCRIPTURE** says that **DAVID** went to **ACHISH** the king of **GATH**. It doesn't even say that he tried to hide there. He went to the king!

Well, the servants of **ACHISH** recognized **DAVID** and told **ACHISH** that **DAVID** was the *king of the land!* So, they knew that **DAVID** had been **ANOINTED** to be **KING OF ISRAEL!** They had also heard of **DAVID'S** other successes and told king **ACHISH** of the song that was sung about him!

Uh-oh! The **SCRIPTURE** says that **DAVID** was *"sore afraid"*...terrified if you will, of king **ACHISH!** That is the setting for **PSALM 56!** **FEAR** is one of those emotions that can stir you to get creative at times!

Believing that his life was in danger, the **SCRIPTURE** says that *"he changed his behaviour before them"* pretending to be a mad-man by scrabbling on the doors of the gate and drooling at the mouth! By doing that, **ACHISH** didn't want anything to do with **DAVID!** In fact, **PSALM 34**, written after **DAVID'S** deliverance tells us that the king drove him away and he departed!

But tonight I want us to deal with this **PSALM** that we did not deal with when we looked at the passage in 1 Samuel. (We dealt with **PSALM 34** but not **56!**)

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I. WE SEE DAVID ENCOURAGED HIMSELF IN THE LORD'S MERCY!

A. Yes, There Was The OPPOSITION Of The Enemy!

1. That OPPOSITION Is Seen In The Daily Desire Of The Enemy!

"...for man would swallow me up." (Vs 1b)

"Mine enemies would daily swallow me up." (Vs 2a)

DAVID could sense this through the words and actions of the enemy!

2. That OPPOSITION Is Seen In The Daily OPPRESSION By The Enemy!

"He fighting daily oppresseth me." (Vs 1c)

"They gather themselves together, they hide themselves, they mark my steps, when they wait for my soul." (Vs 6)

There were words of **oppression** intended to bring him down in the sight of the king!

"Every day they wrest my words..." (Vs 5a)

There were words of oppression to increase his fears!

"...all their thoughts are against me." (Vs 5b)

3. That OPPOSITION Is Seen In The OVERWHELMING By The Enemy!

"...for they be many that fight against me." (Vs 2b)

B. But, There Was The MERCY Of The LORD!

DAVID called out for the **LORD'S MERCY** in the midst of all the **OPPOSITION** and **OPPRESSION** of the enemy!

"Be merciful unto me, O God..." (Vs 1a)

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David had a **HOPE...a SURE EXPECTATION** of what would happen when he cried to the **LORD!**

“When I cry unto thee, then shall mine enemies turn back: this I know;...” (Vs 9a)

WE SEE DAVID ENCOURAGED HIMSELF IN THE LORD'S MERCY!

II. WE SEE THE LORD'S MERCY ENCOURAGED DAVID TO TRUST HIM!

A. David Was Determined In His TRUST In The LORD!

“What time I am afraid, I will trust in thee.” (Vs 3)

Oh how we need to have that same **TRUST** in our day!

“...In God I have put my trust; I will not fear what flesh can do unto me.” (Vs 4b)

“In God have I put my trust: I will not be afraid what man can do unto me.” (Vs 11)

(DAVID had GOD on his side...meaning GOD'S Omnipresence, Omniscience, Omnipotence was there!)

B. David Was Determined In His Praise Of The LORD!

It was a **PRAISE** that was founded in the **LORD'S WORD!**

DAVID had **GOD'S WORD** that he would come to the throne of **ISRAEL!** That hadn't happened yet, so he was confident that the **LORD** would get him through this somehow!

(e.g. **ABRAHAM'S** confidence in the **LORD** on **MT. MORIAH** when he was told to offer up **ISAAC**. **He knew the LORD** would intervene because the **LORD** had promised him that the **COVENANT** blessings were thru **ISAAC**)

“In God I will praise his word...” (Vs 4a)

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“...this I know; for God is for me.” (Vs 9b)

“In God will I praise his word: in the LORD will I praise his word.” (Vs 10)

“Thy vows are upon me, O God: I will render praises unto thee.” (Vs 11)

*David Was Determined In His Trust In The LORD!
David Was Determined In His Praise Of The LORD!*

C. David Was Determined That His Deliverance Was A Done Deal! (Vs 13)

DAVID said, *“thou hast delivered...wilt not thou deliver...”*

Conclusion

Despite the enemies we face as **BELIEVERS** of the World, the Flesh, or the Devil— our future is as bright as the **PROMISES OF GOD!**

No matter what's going on around us we can have **CONFIDENCE in GOD and HIS WORD!**

Are you **STANDING ON THE PROMISES** like **DAVID**?
Can you confidently say...*“This I know; for God is for me!”*

Let tomorrow come! I have **GOD** and **HE** is for me!