## Give Ear to My Words

Psalms Chapters Five, Six and Seven

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~ Our Spiritual Safari continues in this report with personal accounts and life experiences recorded by King David regarding his personal relationship with God. This section of Scripture, which began in chapter two and runs through chapter seven, reveals a prophetic picture of the nation Israel during the tremendous struggle they will endure during the Great Tribulation period. That time to come is in the future, if you are reading this report. This cluster of Psalms also has a profoundly deep and vividly real spiritual application for us. Overwhelming and overpowering principles are involved; and this brings a solemn message for God's people throughout all ages, and in all circumstances and conditions....

## $ilde{m{\mathcal{O}}} \sim$ (To the chief Musician upon Nehiloth, A Psalm of David)

~ This chapter has been called "the perfect man in the midst of his enemies" – and, although David is the writer, and David was not perfect, that is still an adequate title. In our last Psalm, we had a musical instrument called Neginoth – a stringed instrument – but this is Nehiloth; and some believe it is not a musical instrument but, rather, the word means "inheritance" — and defines the character of the Psalm in that the righteous are the Lord's inheritance. Others believe this means a wind instrument, such as a flute or oboe – or even a trumpet. The latter is the most widely accepted and accurate. Naturally, David was the "sweet Psalmist of Israel" and most of these Psalms were composed to musical accompaniment – if not all of them.

Either way, this is a prayer of faith sent up from David's heart in which David confirms discernment that God is the shield and rewarder of those who seek Him. This Psalm is in union with a deep sense of prevailing evil and ungodliness in the world which daily presented itself to the contemplation of faithful saints. The vexing of the soul, because of the abundance of iniquity, is a leading feature in the general expression of this Psalm. See, patience is wrought through tribulation; and joy abounds only

in the sure hope of a deliverance from the councils of unerring love. I think that statement totally and completely sums up this incredible Psalm! This is another morning Psalm, but this one is a morning *prayer*. It's a prayer request that God would hear David; and it's always good to start our day by lifting our hearts to God with this prayer, too....

1 Give ear to my words, O LORD, consider my meditation.

2 Hearken unto the voice of my cry, my King, and my God: for unto thee will I pray.

3 My voice shalt thou hear in the morning, O LORD; in the morning will I direct my prayer unto thee, and will look up.

4 For thou art not a God that hath pleasure in wickedness: neither shall evil dwell with thee.

5 The foolish shall not stand in thy sight: thou hatest all workers of iniquity.

6 Thou shalt destroy them that speak leasing: the LORD will abhor the bloody and deceitful man.

7 But as for me, I will come into thy house in the multitude of thy mercy: and in thy fear will I worship toward thy holy temple.

~ These verses are a supreme comfort for the Godly man that the ungodly knows nothing about, friends. Many people look around and have a very pessimistic feeling about the evil going on in virtually every facet of our lives. The iniquity displayed publicly and proudly can easily make one sick of heart. It is the hatred of evil in the heart of the believer that reveals he is on the right side of God Almighty! Yes, you read that correctly. God hates *ALL* workers of iniquity and God hates *ALL* evil. You can read it for yourself in this Psalm. Frankly, I think it makes God want to vomit to look at this world and see the utter rebellion taking place; willful disobedience with such nonchalant irreverence in the daily lives of the atheistic. Wickedness does

not please God; it never has – and it never will – and it won't please those who truly love God, either.

Evil cannot and *WILL* not abide side-by-side with righteousness, my friends. Evil is darkness; but God is light — and there is no darkness in Him. Remember, Habakkuk said of God, ".... Thou art of pure eyes and cannot look upon iniquity." Wickedness prospers for a time, but the day comes when eternal destruction and shamefulness overcome those who practice lying, deceitfulness, and any other iniquity. God has made it very, very clear that He is going to judge those things. The evil that seems prevalent is not going to prevail; you can just write that down.

Revelation 21:8 .... the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death ~

I'm sure these reports sound old-fashioned to some people; and I'm also sure many have never heard Bible teaching this way before. Further, some simply do not agree with my interpretation of the Psalms; although I am also almost sure that person is not reading this report. Well, either way, I'm interested neither in your evaluation of my teaching nor of me personally. Further, and quite candidly, I really don't care if *ANYONE* reads these reports. I'm giving you the Word of God as the Spirit of God has led me to present it; and I can assure I will do exactly that until God tells me to do otherwise! The judgment of God is coming upon this earth; you can bet your life on that truth....

8 Lead me, O LORD, in thy righteousness because of mine enemies; make thy way straight before my face.

9 For there is no faithfulness in their mouth; their inward part is very wickedness; their throat is an open sepulchre; they flatter with their tongue.

10 Destroy thou them, O God; let them fall by their own counsels; cast them out in the multitude of their transgressions; for they have rebelled against thee.

11 But let all those that put their trust in thee rejoice: let them ever shout for joy, because thou defendest them: let them also that love thy name be joyful in thee.

12 For thou, LORD, wilt bless the righteous; with favour wilt thou compass him as with a shield.

~ See, David's enemies were watching him closely throughout his entire life. They desperately wanted to see him stumble, fall, and die. David knew that, and wanted to glorify the Lord in spite of his station in life. So, David prayed God would not allow him to fall; and also that God would lead him in every step he took. Very reasonable prayers. Verse nine is quoted by Paul in Romans chapter three. So many people are glib of tongue. They are conceitedly self-righteous, perfectly pious, and have no idea what the truth is and, as a result, they never tell the truth! See, it's impossible to think wrong and act right. David wants them to be held responsible — and David knows God will handle them.

Prayer was the only resource or recourse for David as he saw abject wickedness prevail around him. David desired to walk in a way that would not bring disrepute to the Name of God! Verse ten will be a proper prayer in the Great Tribulation period; and it is the first *imprecatory* prayer recorded in Psalms. We'll develop that theological detail later on in Psalms. David is going to pray some very harsh prayers asking God to bring judgment, justice, and for the intervention of the Lord on his behalf. Judgment must come upon the transgressors in this world one day. Remember, the Lord Jesus told a parable of a woman who prayed, ".... avenge me of my adversaries!" That old judge was moved because the widow troubled his conscience. That same judge said, ".... shall not God avenge His Own elect?" Here, we're talking about the nation Israel.

Now, to be clear, I think it is positively sinful for a Christian to pray this type of prayer in this age in which we live. Yes, I mean that; and this is where a

proper interpretation of the Word of God is critical. See, many people try to get rid of this portion of the Bible — and imprecatory Psalms are the primary argument the critic uses to say this is not the Word of God. Well, these are not expressions for Christian living today, I agree with that. This is for a specific group of God's people during a specific period of time — the Great Tribulation period. Even so, it belongs right here in the canons of Scripture, obviously. See, this Word shall never pass away. For goodness sakes, let's interpret Scripture accurately and correctly, for a change — so it can begin to make sense.

This also utterly defies those who are against dispensation, too, by the way. People who are back under law will pray these prayers in that day as they did in the past under law. Today, we are to pray for those who deceitfully use us; that they will be chosen by God for salvation. That's difficult to do sometimes, I understand that all too well. However, that's where we're at because God says, "vengeance is Mine, saith the Lord, I will repay." Well, God isn't taking vengeance today; no, He is patient, longsuffering and desires that none should perish. This world has an opportunity to turn to God today, but they'll not get by with their continued unbelief and sins forever. Their day is coming....

 $\mathcal{O}\mathcal{O}\sim$  (To the chief Musician on Neginoth upon Sheminith, A Psalm of David)

1 O LORD, rebuke me not in thine anger, neither chasten me in thy hot displeasure.

2 Have mercy upon me, O LORD; for I am weak: O LORD, heal me; for my bones are vexed.

3 My soul is also sore vexed: but thou, O LORD, how long?

4 Return, O LORD, deliver my soul: oh save me for thy mercies' sake.

5 For in death there is no remembrance of thee: in the grave who shall give thee thanks?

6 I am weary with my groaning; all the night make I my bed to swim; I water my couch with my tears.

7 Mine eye is consumed because of grief; it waxeth old because of all mine enemies.

8 Depart from me, all ye workers of iniquity; for the LORD hath heard the voice of my weeping.

9 The LORD hath heard my supplication; the LORD will receive my prayer.

10 Let all mine enemies be ashamed and sore vexed: let them return and be ashamed suddenly.

~ Chapter six is the perfect man in the midst of chastisement. Some have labeled this Psalm a cry for mercy — and both are correct. David looked around and saw the wickedness of the other nations; and the hatred in the hearts of other people — but he also took a look at his own heart, and he discovered he isn't any different. David recognizes he isn't perfect before God. I know some of you think you are perfect before God — but you're only kidding yourself. Only a Pharisee says, ".... Lord, I thank Thee that I am not like these other sinners." This isn't an evening Psalm, either; this is the Psalm for the darkest night.

"Sheminith" is believed to refer to a specific octave sung by male voices. This is the first penitential Psalm we have; and that means it is a cry of a saved man in repentance. David sees he has a very real need, so he just cries out to God in confession for mercy. Do you know anything about crying out to God for mercy from the very depths of despair, friends? Only mercy can help us cope with our problems in life. Well, God is rich in mercy! We can thank Him that He has plenty for both of us. So, we have a picture of David in his day, and of the remnant of the nation Israel in the last days. We also have a picture of believers on earth right now as I type this report and as you read it. So, this Psalm is past, present and future! Most importantly, however, we have a picture of the Spirit of Christ Jesus speaking in prophecy of His Own suffering through which He passed in the days of His humiliation.

I don't know what you're feeling, or what you're going through today – but Jesus has already been through it; so, He is able comfort us. This Psalm brings an answer to prayer in verses eight through ten. Many of us are in trouble, sickness and despair. God will hear us and answer us when we are in deep trouble. All we have to do is cry out to Him. It's wonderful to have a Savior like the Lord Jesus Christ.

<u>Hebrews 5:7</u> Who in the days of his flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto Him that was able to save Him from death, and was heard in that He feared  $\sim$ 

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 $\mathcal{O}\mathcal{O}\mathcal{O}\sim$  (Shiggaion of David, which he sang unto the LORD, concerning the words of Cush the Benjamite)

1 O LORD my God, in thee do I put my trust: save me from all them that persecute me, and deliver me:

2 Lest he tear my soul like a lion, rending it in pieces, while there is none to deliver.

3 O LORD my God, if I have done this; if there be iniquity in my hands;

4 If I have rewarded evil unto him that was at peace with me; (yea, I have delivered him that without cause is mine enemy:)

5 Let the enemy persecute my soul, and take it; yea, let him tread down my life upon the earth, and lay mine honour in the dust. Selah.

6 Arise, O LORD, in thine anger, lift up thyself because of the rage of mine enemies: and awake for meto the judgment that thou hast commanded.

7 So shall the congregation of the people compass thee about: for their sakes therefore return thou on high.

8 The LORD shall judge the people: judge me, O LORD, according to my righteousness, and according to mine integrity that is in me.

9 Oh let the wickedness of the wicked come to an end; but establish the just: for the righteous God trieth the hearts and reins.

10 My defence is of God, which saveth the upright in heart.

11 God judgeth the righteous, and God is angry with the wicked every day.

12 If he turn not, he will whet his sword; he hath bent his bow, and made it ready.

13 He hath also prepared for him the instruments of death; he ordaineth his arrows against the persecutors.

14 Behold, he travaileth with iniquity, and hath conceived mischief, and brought forth falsehood.

15 He made a pit, and digged it, and is fallen into the ditch which he made.

16 His mischief shall return upon his own head, and his violent dealing shall come down upon his own pate.

17 I will praise the LORD according to his righteousness: and will sing praise to the name of the LORD most high.

~ So, our Spiritual Safari ends this leg of our expedition with a Psalm that should have written over it: ".... shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?" The word Shiggaion means "crying aloud in praise!" This is David himself singing. I believe this reveals the final persecution and suffering of the remnant of the nation Israel during the time of the Great Tribulation period. It is certainly a crying out against the man of sin! We'll see more of this in the next chapter, also. We close this report with confidence in and of prayer.

The lion in verse two is Satan, friends. This Psalm reveals the suffering and injustice of an innocent man. Candidly, that is something I don't understand in this world. There are things in my life I have questions about; maybe you know something about that, too? I don't propose to understand injustice, either. I just take at face value that injustice is the way of the world; because I believe God Who does understand them; and He over-rules them — and He is going to explain them to me someday. We end again in morning light in verse six. I can't sing, but this Psalm makes me want to ~

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