

Meditations in the Morning

Psalm 5: 1-8

This passage clearly reveals a prayer offered unto the Lord. This is another Psalm of David, and many agree that it too was written while he fled from Absalom and those who sought to overthrow the kingdom. In fact, it is thought that Psalm 3, 4, and 5 were written during this time. Some think Psalm 3 is a morning prayer, with Psalm 4 being an evening prayer, and Psalm 5 another morning prayer.

It is quite evident that David was a man of prayer regardless of the situation he faced. If this Psalm was written during the rebellion, it would certainly reveal a time of great need and earnest intercession before the Lord. This is clearly speculation on my part, but I can imagine David offering this prayer as he woke refreshed from another restful night of peace given of the Lord. [Psalm 3:5 – I laid me down and slept; I awaked; for the LORD sustained me.](#)

There is much we can glean from the words of David within this Psalm. Our circumstances are much different, but there is a great need in all our lives for morning meditation and prayer. I want to examine the [aspects](#) of David's thoughts as we consider: [Meditations in the Morning](#).

I. A Morning Plea (1-2) – David begins with a plea unto the Lord. We discover:

A. A Desire to be Heard (1) – [Give ear to my words, O LORD, consider my meditation.](#) I can imagine David waking after another restful night in the Lord, prior to anyone else being awake. No doubt his mind continues to be filled with questions regarding the events that are taking place. The people are looking to him for guidance and safety. Some may have offered advice, but David is in great need of godly wisdom. He turns to the place he has found comfort and wisdom so many times before, desiring to be heard of the Lord yet again in his time of great need.

▪ Often prayers are offered out of habit or a feeling of obligation with no real desire to be heard of the Lord. Each time we pray we ought to be mindful of the Lord and genuinely desire to be heard of Him. It is the greatest asset we have as believers and prayer should be a vital part of life. [1 John 5:14 – And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us:](#)

B. A Desire to be Helped (2) – [Hearken unto the voice of my cry, my King, and my God: for unto thee will I pray.](#) Although David was a seasoned warrior, this circumstance was much different. The enemy was his own son. He was now much older than when he faced previous battles. He didn't

have as many valiant men alongside him. David knew he needed the Lord to provide and sustain him in the midst of this conflict. He desperately needed the help of the Lord. [He acknowledged the Lord as his King and his God.](#) David was confident of the Lord's authority and His great power. He was confident in God's ability to meet his need. There was no need to look to another.

- We all face circumstances in life that are beyond our ability to handle. We lack the wisdom necessary to make prudent decisions and the power to overcome. There is no doubt, we all need the Lord's help and guidance as we journey through life. He alone can provide the strength and wisdom we need. We have great assurance, knowing He will respond to our cries for help. [1 John 5:15 – And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.](#)

II. A Morning Prayer (3-6) – Consider the aspects of David's prayer. We see:

A. The Devotion (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.](#) David prayed unto the Lord in the morning. I am convinced he began his day with prayer and meditation unto the Lord. He knew the challenges of the day were more than he could handle alone, so he began each day with a prayer for help and guidance.

- That is very simple and an elementary aspect of Christian knowledge, but often we fail to practice what we know. We were taught to pray as children, and we know the great benefits of prayer, but often we fail to pray. How many times have we felt too busy to take the time to pray? How often have we found ourselves overwhelmed by circumstances only to realize we haven't talked to the Lord about our needs? Prayer is a vital part of life, and we should always seek God early, before we do anything else. I believe it was Martin Luther who said something like: "I have so much to accomplish today I shall need to spend three hours in prayer in order to get it done."

B. The Direction (3b) – [in the morning will I direct my prayer unto thee, and will look up.](#) David was well aware where his help came from. He knew he needed the Lord's guidance and help. He didn't consult with advisors or get the consensus of the group about how to approach the day. He directed his prayer to the Lord, looking up to Him. He trusted solely in God.

- It is wonderful to have those on whom we can depend. I am truly thankful for each of you and the support you provide. However, we must not look to one another or depend solely on our own abilities to accomplish our goals. It is wise to seek the counsel of others, but that should be secondary to seeking the Lord. We need His guidance first, and His counsel should always be followed regardless of what others say or think. [Isaiah 26:9 – With my soul have I desired thee in the](#)

night; yea, with my spirit within me will I seek thee early: for when thy judgments *are* in the earth, the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness.

C. The Discernment (4) – For thou *art* not a God that hath pleasure in wickedness: neither shall evil dwell with thee. There are a couple of aspects David knew here. He was aware that God was on his side and He had no pleasure in the wickedness of Absalom or the evil deeds he sought to fulfill. He could rely on God to help him in his time of need.

- There is also the aspect of prayer. David knew his heart needed to be clean as he approached the Lord. God expects those who come before Him to come with a pure heart.
- There is comfort in knowing that God will meet our needs and guide our lives, but this verse challenged my heart. I was reminded of the great need to live a pure life before the Lord. While living in a body of flesh, we will sin and come short, but we must repent of our sin and seek righteousness if we desire our prayers to be heard. Christ offered Himself for our sin. We have been bought with a price. It is through the sacrifice and provision of Christ that we have access to the throne of grace. We must come before Him as pure and clean as we can!

D. The Discipline (5-6) – The foolish shall not stand in thy sight: thou hatest all workers of iniquity.^[6] Thou shalt destroy them that speak leasing (*deception, falsehood*): the LORD will abhor the bloody and deceitful man. David also knew the enemy did not enjoy the benefits he enjoyed. God hates the works of iniquity and the foolish do not enjoy an audience with the Lord. They cannot stand in His presence. God will judge and punish those who speak lies and deception, seeking to shed innocent blood. This brought confidence and courage as he prayed. David knew the Lord would deal with his enemies according to His righteous standard.

- Society can seem overwhelming at times. We are greatly outnumbered in our efforts to serve the Lord, but we have a great advantage. We have the Lord on our side. God is sovereign and many times He allows societies to have their way as a form of punishment, but He is also keeping a record. The wicked may seem to prosper in our day, but there will be a day of judgment for each of us. Only those who are born again in Christ have access to the throne of grace, and the wicked and unrepentant will face God for their rebellion and rejection of Christ.

III. A Morning Praise (7-8) – We conclude our study with an aspect of David's prayer that ought to be present in every prayer we pray: praise unto the Lord. Notice:

A. The Rejoicing (7a) – *But as for me, I will come into thy house in the multitude of thy mercy:* David rejoiced for the mercy he had received and he praised the Lord that His mercy had been extended. God had spared David yet again and he knew it was of the Lord's mercies that he had not suffered defeat. He worshiped the Lord with praise and thanksgiving for mercy.

- Should we all not offer praise and thanksgiving for the Lord's mercies we enjoy every day? None of us are worthy of His goodness and grace. Had we received what we deserved we would have been left in our sin and condemned to death in hell. God's mercy withheld the justice we deserved while offering grace through His Son!

B. The Reverence (7b) – *and in thy fear will I worship toward thy holy temple.* David recognized the holiness of God. He knew God had been faithful to him, sparing his life and providing for him. He doesn't come before the Lord with an arrogant attitude, feeling as if he deserved all he had received. He is humbled before the Lord, coming in awe of His glory and offering worship to the God of heaven.

- What a lesson we learn from the most powerful man on earth at that time. We too must come before God with fear and reverence. I fear many have lost their sense of wonder and awe of God. Many come casually before the Lord. He doesn't desire us to be afraid to come before Him, but that we come in humility, gratitude, and great wonder.

C. The Request (8) – *Lead me, O LORD, in thy righteousness because of mine enemies; make thy way straight before my face.* Surely Absalom had been raised to worship the Lord. He would've been taught the ways of God and taught to pray unto the Lord. Somewhere along the way, Absalom abandoned the ways of God for the lusts of the flesh. David was aware of the power of temptation and he desired to stay close to the Lord. He knew walking with God and following the paths of righteousness were his only hope. He wanted to know clearly the path to follow.

- Oh how we need those in our day who genuinely seek the guidance of our Lord. The world offers many paths, and there is great temptation to travel those paths. We must continue to follow Christ if we are to overcome in this life. He is our only hope. He is our guide and our stay. Apart from Him we will never make it.
- How can we know the right path? We must follow the example we find here from David and in other portions of Scripture. We must live our lives focused on the Lord, seeking Him in daily prayer, reading His Word for guidance, and following His instruction!

Conclusion: This Psalm has offered a great challenge to all believers. Prayer is such a vital part of our lives. I fear we fail to recognize its great significance. May we become a people dedicated to prayer, continually seeking the Lord.

Are there needs in your life today? Does it seem you are struggling in the way? Are there battles you face and feel defeat is certain? If so, seek the Lord as David did. Seek His help and guidance for your life. Come before Him in humility, seeking His instruction.

If you have never been saved, you do not enjoy the benefits of prayer. You don't have the Advocate and Intercessor pleading for you. Why not come to Christ by faith and repentance, seeking Him in salvation. He wants you to be saved. He wants to guide and strengthen you also.