

Psalm 70

1 To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David, to bring to remembrance. Make haste, O God, to deliver me; make haste to help me, O LORD. 2 Let them be ashamed and confounded that seek after my soul: let them be turned backward, and put to confusion, that desire my hurt. 3 Let them be turned back for a reward of their shame that say, Aha, aha. 4 Let all those that seek thee rejoice and be glad in thee: and let such as love thy salvation say continually, Let God be magnified. 5 But I am poor and needy: make haste unto me, O God: thou art my help and my deliverer; O LORD, make no tarrying.

Introduction:

1. “To the chief Musician” (1 Chr. 25:1-6).
2. “A Psalm of David” – David composed this Psalm.
3. “To bring to remembrance” – (Ps. 40:13-17).
4. Inclusio: in v.1 and v.5 “Make haste” – hurry.

Outline:

- A. Make haste, O God, to deliver me (v.1)
- B. Imprecatory against enemies (vv.2-3)
- B.’ Prayer for God’s people (v.4)
- A.’ Make haste unto me, O God: (v.5)

Observations:

1. This Psalm is almost a repetition of Ps. 40:13-17.
2. Sometimes we repeat petitions and prayers. Not bad as long as it is not “vain repetition” (Matt. 6:6).
3. This Psalm teaches us the balance between patiently waiting and urgent prayers.

Lesson: Sometimes it is needful to pray over and over again for some things.

Psalm 71

1:1 In thee, O LORD, do I put my trust: let me never be put to confusion. 2 Deliver me in thy righteousness, and cause me to escape: incline thine ear unto me, and save me. 3 Be thou my strong habitation, whereunto I may continually resort: thou hast given commandment to save me; for thou art my rock and my fortress. 4 Deliver me, O my God, out of the hand of the wicked, out of the hand of the unrighteous and cruel man.

5 For thou art my hope, O Lord GOD: thou art my trust from my youth. 6 By thee have I been holden up from the womb: thou art he that took me out of my mother's bowels: my praise shall be continually of thee. 7 I am as a wonder unto many; but thou art my strong refuge. 8 Let my mouth be filled with thy praise and with thy honour all the day.

9 Cast me not off in the time of old age; forsake me not when my strength faileth. 10 For mine enemies speak against me; and they that lay wait for my soul take counsel together, 11

Saying, God hath forsaken him: persecute and take him; for there is none to deliver him. 12 O God, be not far from me: O my God, make haste for my help. 13 Let them be confounded and consumed that are adversaries to my soul; let them be covered with reproach and dishonour that seek my hurt.

14 But I will hope continually, and will yet praise thee more and more. 15 My mouth shall shew forth thy righteousness and thy salvation all the day; for I know not the numbers thereof. 16 I will go in the strength of the Lord GOD: I will make mention of thy righteousness, even of thine only. 17 O God, thou hast taught me from my youth: and hitherto have I declared thy wondrous works. 18 Now also when I am old and grayheaded, O God, forsake me not; until I have shewed thy strength unto this generation, and thy power to every one that is to come.

19 Thy righteousness also, O God, is very high, who hast done great things: O God, who is like unto thee! 20 Thou, which hast shewed me great and sore troubles, shalt quicken me again, and shalt bring me up again from the depths of the earth. 21 Thou shalt increase my greatness, and comfort me on every side.

22 I will also praise thee with the psaltery, even thy truth, O my God: unto thee will I sing with the harp, O thou Holy One of Israel. 23 My lips shall greatly rejoice when I sing unto thee; and my soul, which thou hast redeemed. 24 My tongue also shall talk of thy righteousness all the day long: for they are confounded, for they are brought unto shame, that seek my hurt.

Introduction:

1. We assume that this is a Psalm of David – since it is untitled and reads like a Psalm of David – though we are not dogmatic here.
2. The Psalmist commits himself to God’s care.
3. “confusion” (v.1) and “confounded” (v.24) form an inclusio.

Outline:

- A. Prayer of Confidence (vv.1-4)
- B. Affirmation of Confidence (vv.5-8)
- C. Prayer in Old Age (vv.9-13)
- C.’ Hope in Old Age (vv.14-18)
- B.’ Affirmation of Confidence (vv.19-21)
- A.’ Thanksgiving with Confidence (vv.22-24)

Observations:

1. It is good and okay to pray repeatedly for deliverance.
2. That God rules and acts righteously upholds the Psalmist.
3. God is our refuge in times or trouble and the “evil days” seasons of life.

Lesson: This Psalm is the prayer of an older person – it is a mixture of testimony, praise, curse, and confidence.