

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

- 10) 03 Aug Psalm 032 God's Forgiveness
 11) 10 Aug Psalm 023 God's Care
 12) 17 Aug Psalm 139 God's Greatness
13) 24 Aug Psalm 005 God's Righteousness
 14) 31 Aug Psalm 042 God's Presence

INTRODUCTION

- Out of 12 verses, King David makes 11 prayerful requests in 5 verses for God to answer. The other 7 verses provide useful information regarding the character and attributes of either God or of David's enemies.
- David's 11 prayerful requests include the following:
 - 1-2) Give ear and consider my groaning (v1)
 - 3) Heed my cry for help (v2)
 - 4-5) Lead me in Your righteousness and make Your way straight before me (v8)
 - 6-8) Hold my enemies guilty, let them fall, and thrust them out (v10)
 - 9-11) Let your saints be glad, and let them sing for joy, and shelter/protect them (11)

Passage	Comments
Psalm 5:1-2	1-2 For the choir director; for flute accompaniment. A Psalm of David. Give ear to my words, O LORD, Consider my groaning. Heed the sound of my cry for help, my King and my God, For to You I pray.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How would God answer this prayer request to "Give Ear", Consider and to "Heed" our groanings for help? Would it be immediate and tangible or would it be subjective, and possibly occur weeks, months, even years after being uttered? Would we still be thankful to God for a delayed response?
5:3	3 In the morning, O LORD, You will hear my voice; In the morning I will order my prayer to You & eagerly watch.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Are we devoted to praying as we should? If not, how do we fix it? <p>Consider the following praying habits by some faithful servants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Daniel prayed 3x daily on his knees Dan 6:10 David prayed morning, noon, and at night Ps 55:17 Nehemiah prayed quickly Neh 22:3 Prophetess Anna fasted & prayed day and night Luke 2:36-37 Jesus prayed all night Luke 6:12 Jesus prayed while being tortured on the cross Mt 27:46 The tax collector would not even look up to heaven Lk 18:10-13
5:4-5	4-5 For You are not a God who takes pleasure in wickedness; No evil dwells with You. The boastful shall not stand before Your eyes; You hate all who sin.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Should we have the same attributes about the wicked as God does? Do we? Where do we compromise with sin? Can we fix it? Consider David's sinful behavior and how he addressed it Ps 51
5:6	6 You destroy those who speak falsehood; The LORD abhors the man of bloodshed and deceit.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How does God abhor and destroy the wicked? Aren't they still around us TODAY? Is this a general statement or a tailored statement for some situations, but not for all?
5:7	7 But as for me, by Your abundant lovingkindness I will enter Your house, At Your holy temple I will bow in reverence for You.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How does God's "abundant lovingkindness" allow us to enter church each week? And should we bow down in reverence? <p>Consider how the following saints showed reverence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Daniel prayed 3x daily on his knees Dan 6:10 David sat to pray 2 Samuel 7:18 Solomon stood & spread his hands toward heaven 1 Kings 8:22 Solomon also sat, stood, and knelt in prayer 2Chron 6:13

Passage	Comments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ezra and the people prayed standing with hands lifted up, heads down, eyes to ground Neh 8:6 Jesus knelt down and prayed Luke 22:41 Jesus laid down to pray Mt 26:38-39 Jesus prayed with His eyes open John 17:1 Jesus stated, 'whenever you stand praying...' Mark 11:25 Paul wanted men to lift up holy hands in prayer 1 Tim 2:8a Paul and others prayed kneeling Acts 20:5, 36
5:8	8 O LORD, lead me in Your righteousness because of my foes; Make Your way straight before me.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What would this look like? Would life be easier for us with no turmoil or less turmoil or less self-induced turmoil? Remember: Following God's Righteousness is a life of Obedience
5:9	9 There is nothing reliable in what they say; Their inward part is destruction. Their throat is an open grave; They flatter with their tongue.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The wicked are seemingly predictable in their behavior Apostle Paul seemingly quotes this passage in Romans 3:13 to depict the vileness of the non-repentant Rom 3:9-19
5:10	10 Hold them guilty, O God; By their own devices let them fall! In the multitude of their transgressions thrust them out; For they are rebellious against You.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Day of the Lord at the end of the Millennial Reign of Christ and just prior to the creation of the New Heaven and Earth does bring final judgement for the wicked Rev 20:13-15 This verse seems to allude to temporal judgement for the wicked who torment the righteous – BUT the righteous often get martyred It looks like we have the liberty to ask God for retribution against those who abuse us. Is this how we should pray for those who persecute us? Or should we take a higher road and Bless those who curse and mistreat us? Luke 6:28; 23:24; Acts 7:60
5:11	11 But let all who take refuge in You be glad, Let them ever sing for joy; And may You shelter them, That those who love Your name may exult in You.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How does God shelter the righteous from harm? Did He do it for Stephen, or for most of the Apostles, or even for His Son? Recall both Jesus and Stephen prayed for God to forgive the sin of those who murdered them. Can you imagine someone suffering through all Eternity for all their sins, and add on top of that for killing God's saints, much less for killing the Son of God? Jesus and Stephen did bring some eternal relief to their perpetrators. Also recall that Jeremiah asked the Lord "Let me see Your vengeance on those who plan to do me harm", and the Lord said that "I will punish them, their young men will die by the sword, and their sons and daughters will die by famine." Jer 11:20-22
5:12	12 For it is You who blesses the righteous man, O LORD, You surround him with favor as with a shield.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yes, if we look at verses 11-12 from a spiritual perspective, God, indeed does shield His saints from suffering from eternal harm

CONCLUSION / APPLICATIONS / CONSIDERATIONS

- We must pray, even for those who spitefully use and abuse us
- What greater love can we show to those whom Christ died for

