

# Psalm 017 - A Cry for Justice

## Psalm 17

[A Prayer of David.]

### A Cry for Justice

1 Hear a just cause, LORD, give *Your* attention to my cry; Listen to my prayer, which is not from deceitful lips.

1 Hear a just cause, O LORD, give heed to my cry; Give ear to my prayer, which is not from deceitful lips.

1 LORD, hear my just plea! Pay attention to my cry! Listen to my prayer, since it does not come from lying lips.

1 Hear the right, O LORD, attend unto my cry, give ear unto my prayer, that goeth not out of feigned lips.

2 Let my judgment come forth from Your presence; Let Your eyes look with integrity.

2 Let my judgment come forth from Your presence; Let Your eyes look with equity.

2 Justice for me will come from your presence; your eyes see what is right.

2 Let my sentence come forth from thy presence; let thine eyes behold the things that are equal.

3 You have put my heart to the test; You have visited *me* by night; You have sifted me and You find nothing; My intent is that my mouth will not offend.

3 You have tried my heart; You have visited *me* by night; You have tested me and You find nothing; I have purposed that my mouth will not transgress.

3 When you probe my heart, and examine me at night; when you refine me, you will find nothing wrong, for I have determined that I will not transgress with my mouth.

3 Thou hast proved mine heart; thou hast visited me in the night; thou hast tried me, and shalt find nothing; I am purposed that my mouth shall not transgress.

4 As for the works of mankind, by the word of Your lips I have kept from the ways of the violent.

4 As for the deeds of men, by the word of Your lips I have kept from the paths of the violent.

4 As for the ways of mankind, I have, according to the words of your lips, avoided the ways of the violent.

4 Concerning the works of men, by the word of thy lips I have kept me from the paths of the destroyer.

5 My steps have held to Your paths. My feet have not slipped.

5 My steps have held fast to Your paths. My feet have not slipped.

5 Because my steps have held fast to your paths, my footsteps have not faltered.

5 Hold up my goings in thy paths, that my footsteps slip not.

6 I have called upon You, for You will answer me, God; Incline Your ear to me, hear my speech.

6 I have called upon You, for You will answer me, O God; Incline Your ear to me, hear my speech.

6 I call upon you, for you will answer me, God. Listen closely to me and hear my prayer.

6 I have called upon thee, for thou wilt hear me, O God: incline thine ear unto me, and hear my speech.

7 Show Your wonderful faithfulness, Savior of those who take refuge at Your right hand From those who rise up *against them*.

7 Wondrously show Your lovingkindness, O Savior of those who take refuge at Your right hand From those who rise up *against them*.

7 Show forth your gracious love, save those who take refuge in you from those who rebel against your sovereign power.

7 Shew thy marvellous lovingkindness, O thou that savest by thy right hand them which put their trust in thee from those that rise up against them.

- Reminiscent of the Song of Moses (Ex 15:1-19)

8 **Keep me** as the apple of the eye; Hide me in the shadow of Your wings

8 Keep me as the apple of the eye; Hide me in the shadow of Your wings

8 Protect me as the most precious part of the eye; hide me under the shadow of your wings

8 Keep me as the apple of the eye, hide me under the shadow of thy wings,

- "Keep me" - although a master military technician, he knew without God's help he could not escape

9 From the wicked who deal violently with me, My deadly enemies who surround me.

9 From the wicked who despoil me, My deadly enemies who surround me.

9 from the wicked who have afflicted me, from my enemies who have surrounded me.

9 From the wicked that oppress me, from my deadly enemies, who compass me about.

10 They have closed their unfeeling *hearts*, With their mouths they speak proudly.  
10 They have closed their unfeeling *heart*, With their mouth they speak proudly.  
10 They are imprisoned by their own prosperity, they have boasted proudly with their mouth.  
10 They are inclosed in their own fat: with their mouth they speak proudly.

11 They have now surrounded us in our steps; They set their eyes to cast *us* down to the ground.  
11 They have now surrounded us in our steps; They set their eyes to cast *us* down to the ground.  
11 Now they have encircled our paths and are determined to cast us down to the ground.  
11 They have now compassed us in our steps: they have set their eyes bowing down to the earth;

12 He is like a lion that is eager to tear, And as a young lion lurking in secret places.  
12 He is like a lion that is eager to tear, And as a young lion lurking in hiding places.  
12 Like a lion they desire to rip us to pieces, like a young lion waiting in ambush.  
12 Like as a lion that is greedy of his prey, and as it were a young lion lurking in secret places.  
- Twice Saul threw a spear at him; 4 times sent soldiers to capture him...

**13** Arise, LORD, confront him, make him bow down; Save my soul from the wicked with Your sword,  
**13** Arise, O LORD, confront him, bring him low; Deliver my soul from the wicked with Your sword,  
13 Arise, LORD, confront them, bring them to their knees! Deliver me from the wicked by your sword—  
13 Arise, O LORD, disappoint him, cast him down: deliver my soul from the wicked, which is thy sword:

14 From people by Your hand, LORD, From people of the world, whose portion is in *this* life, And whose belly You fill with Your treasure; They are satisfied with children, And leave their abundance to their babies.  
14 From men with Your hand, O LORD, From men of the world, whose portion is in *this* life, And whose belly You fill with Your treasure; They are satisfied with children, And leave their abundance to their babes.

14 from men, LORD, by your hand— from men who belong to this world, whose reward is only in this life. But as for your treasured ones, may their stomachs be full, may their children have an abundance, and may they leave wealth to their offspring.

14 From men which are thy hand, O LORD, from men of the world, which have their portion in this life, and whose belly thou fillest with thy hid treasure: they are full of children, and leave the rest of their substance to their babes.

15 As for me, I shall behold Your face in righteousness; I shall be satisfied with Your likeness when I awake.

15 As for me, I shall behold Your face in righteousness; I will be satisfied with Your likeness when I awake.

15 But as for me, justified, I will behold your face; when I awake, your presence will satisfy me.

15 As for me, I will behold thy face in righteousness: I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with thy likeness.