

Psalm 057 - Michtam Psalm: A Prayer for Deliverance

After David's deliverance from Gath, he fled to the cave of Adullam (1 Sam 22:1ff). Later, he would move to a cave in En Gedi (1 Sam 24; Cf. Ps 142).

Michtam #2: David spent time in the caves along the Dead Sea by En Gedi: below sea level —hot during the summer, but in the winter it's delightful. The cave of Adullam is in that area also; many expositors believe this psalm has reference to that cave where David meditated on many of the psalms that he composed. Some see his sufferings foreshadowing the sufferings of Christ and those of the godly Remnant during the time of Jacob's trouble.

Psalm 57

[To the chief Musician, Al-taschith, Michtam of David, when he fled from Saul in the cave.]

A Prayer for Deliverance

1 Be gracious to me, God, be gracious to me, For my soul takes refuge in You; And in the shadow of Your wings I will take refuge Until destruction passes by.

1 Be gracious to me, O God, be gracious to me, For my soul takes refuge in You; And in the shadow of Your wings I will take refuge Until destruction passes by.

1 Have mercy on me, God, have mercy, for in you I have placed my trust. Even in the shadow of your wings will I find my refuge until this calamity passes.

1 Be merciful unto me, O God, be merciful unto me: for my soul trusteth in thee: yea, in the shadow of thy wings will I make my refuge, until these calamities be overpast.

- In v1-4, David tells God about his great need

— Apart from God's mercy, we would all be crushed by disasters resulting from sin

— When crisis came, David knew to seek refuge in God

2 I will cry to God Most High, To God who accomplishes *all things* for me.

2 I will cry to God Most High, To God who accomplishes *all things* for me.

2 I call upon the God Most High; to the God who completes what he began in me.

2 I will cry unto God most high; unto God that performeth all things for me.

3 He will send from heaven and save me; He rebukes the one who tramples upon me.

Selah God will send His favor and His truth.

3 He will send from heaven and save me; He reproaches him who tramples upon me.

Selah. God will send forth His lovingkindness and His truth.

3 He will send help from heaven to deliver me from those who harass and despise me. God will send his gracious love and truth.

3 He shall send from heaven, and save me from the reproach of him that would swallow me up. *Selah.* God shall send forth his mercy and his truth.

- This will be literally fulfilled for the faithful remnant when Christ returns in power and great glory; and they will say: "...Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, and he will save us: this is the Lord; we have waited for him, we will be glad and rejoice in his salvation" (Is 25:9)

4 My soul is among lions; I must lie *among* those who devour, *Among* sons of mankind whose teeth are spears and arrows, And their tongue is a sharp sword.

4 My soul is among lions; I must lie among those who breathe forth fire, *Even* the sons of men, whose teeth are spears and arrows And their tongue a sharp sword.

4 I am surrounded by lions. I lie down with those who burn with fire— that is, with people whose teeth are like spears and arrows— whose tongues are like sharp swords.

4 My soul is among lions: and I lie even among them that are set on fire, even the sons of men, whose teeth are spears and arrows, and their tongue a sharp sword.

- Satan goes around this world like a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour (1 Peter 5:8), and he has a lot of little lions helping him!

- Remember: these michtam psalms have to do with that which is permanent and enduring, that which is substantial and lasting.

5 Be exalted above the heavens, God; *May* Your glory *be* above all the earth.

5 Be exalted above the heavens, O God; *Let* Your glory *be* above all the earth.

5 Be exalted above the heavens, God! May your glory cover the earth!

5 Be thou exalted, O God, above the heavens; let thy glory be above all the earth.

- In v5-11, David praises God as his greatest desire

— David is focused on faith, not fear. Keeping our eyes on God leads to security and clarity.

— David remained steady by fixing his thoughts on God's measureless love and faithfulness, while he heard the footsteps of Saul's huge company of soldiers approaching

6 They have prepared a net for my steps; My soul is bowed down; They dug a pit before me; They *themselves* have fallen into the midst of it. *Selah*

6 They have prepared a net for my steps; My soul is bowed down; They dug a pit before me; They *themselves* have fallen into the midst of it. *Selah.*

6 They have set a snare for my feet, which makes me depressed. They dug a pit in front of me, but they are the ones who fell into it!

6 They have prepared a net for my steps; my soul is bowed down: they have digged a pit before me, into the midst whereof they are fallen themselves. Selah.

7 My heart is steadfast, God, my heart is steadfast; I will sing, yes, I will sing praises!

7 My heart is steadfast, O God, my heart is steadfast; I will sing, yes, I will sing praises!

7 My heart is committed, God, my heart is committed, so I will sing and play music.

7 My heart is fixed, O God, my heart is fixed: I will sing and give praise.

8 Awake, my glory! Awake, harp and lyre! I will awaken the dawn.

8 Awake, my glory! Awake, harp and lyre! I will awaken the dawn.

8 Wake up, my soul, wake up, lyre and harp! I will awaken at dawn.

8 Awake up, my glory; awake, psaltery and harp: I myself will awake early.

9 I will praise You, Lord, among the peoples; I will sing praises to You among the nations.

9 I will give thanks to You, O Lord, among the peoples; I will sing praises to You among the nations.

9 I will exalt you among the nations, Lord. I will play music among the nations.

9 I will praise thee, O Lord, among the people: I will sing unto thee among the nations.

10 For Your goodness is great to the heavens And Your truth to the clouds.

10 For Your lovingkindness is great to the heavens And Your truth to the clouds.

10 For your gracious love is great, extending even to the heavens, and your truth even to the skies.

10 For thy mercy is great unto the heavens, and thy truth unto the clouds.

11 Be exalted above the heavens, God; *May* Your glory *be* above all the earth.

11 Be exalted above the heavens, O God; *Let* Your glory *be* above all the earth.

11 Be exalted above the heavens, God! May your glory cover the earth!

11 Be thou exalted, O God, above the heavens: let thy glory be above all the earth.