

# Psalm 102 - Messianic Psalm: Penitential Psalm: A Prayer of Trouble and Sorrow

## Psalm 102

[A Prayer of the afflicted, when he is overwhelmed, and poureth out his complaint before the LORD.]

### A Prayer for Help

1 Hear my prayer, LORD! And let my cry for help come to You.

1 Hear my prayer, O LORD! And let my cry for help come to You.

1 LORD, hear my prayer! May my cry for help come to you.

1 Hear my prayer, O LORD, and let my cry come unto thee.

2 Do not hide Your face from me on the day of my distress; Incline Your ear to me; On the day when I call answer me quickly.

2 Do not hide Your face from me in the day of my distress; Incline Your ear to me; In the day when I call answer me quickly.

2 Do not hide your face from me when I am in trouble. Listen to me. When I call to out you, hurry to answer me!

2 Hide not thy face from me in the day when I am in trouble; incline thine ear unto me: in the day when I call answer me speedily.

3 For my days have ended in smoke, And my bones have been scorched like a hearth.

3 For my days have been consumed in smoke, And my bones have been scorched like a hearth.

3 For my days are vanishing like smoke; my bones are charred as in a fireplace.

3 For my days are consumed like smoke, and my bones are burned as an hearth.

4 My heart has been struck like grass and has withered, Indeed, I forget to eat my bread.

4 My heart has been smitten like grass and has withered away, Indeed, I forget to eat my bread.

4 Withered like grass, my heart is overwhelmed, and I have even forgotten to eat my food.

4 My heart is smitten, and withered like grass; so that I forget to eat my bread.

5 Because of the loudness of my groaning My bones cling to my flesh.

5 Because of the loudness of my groaning My bones cling to my flesh.

5 Because of the sound of my sighing, my bones cling to my skin.  
5 By reason of the voice of my groaning my bones cleave to my skin.

6 I resemble a pelican of the wilderness; I have become like an owl of the ruins.  
6 I resemble a pelican of the wilderness; I have become like an owl of the waste places.  
6 I resemble a pelican in the wilderness or an owl in a desolate land.  
6 I am like a pelican of the wilderness: I am like an owl of the desert.

7 I lie awake, I have become like a solitary bird on a housetop.  
7 I lie awake, I have become like a lonely bird on a housetop.  
7 I lie awake, yet I am like a bird isolated on a rooftop.  
7 I watch, and am as a sparrow alone upon the house top.

8 My enemies have taunted me all day long; Those who deride me have used my *name* as a curse.  
8 My enemies have reproached me all day long; Those who deride me have used my *name* as a curse.  
8 My enemies revile me all day long; those who ridicule me use my name to curse.  
8 Mine enemies reproach me all the day; and they that are mad against me are sworn against me.

9 For I have eaten ashes like bread, And mixed my drink with weeping  
9 For I have eaten ashes like bread And mingled my drink with weeping  
9 I have eaten ashes as food and mixed my drink with tears  
9 For I have eaten ashes like bread, and mingled my drink with weeping,

10 Because of Your indignation and Your wrath; For You have lifted me up and thrown me away.  
10 Because of Your indignation and Your wrath, For You have lifted me up and cast me away.  
10 because of your indignation and wrath, when you lifted and threw me away.  
10 Because of thine indignation and thy wrath: for thou hast lifted me up, and cast me down.  
- The words indignation and wrath are the strongest terms you can use in the Hebrew language  
- The Lord endured this. Why? — He did it "...for the joy that was set before him..." (Heb 12:2)

11 My days are like a lengthened shadow, And I wither away like grass.  
11 My days are like a lengthened shadow, And I wither away like grass.  
11 My life is like a declining shadow, and I am withering like a plant.  
11 My days are like a shadow that declineth; and I am withered like grass.

12 But You, LORD, remain forever, And Your name *remains* to all generations.  
12 But You, O LORD, abide forever, And Your name to all generations.  
12 But you, LORD, are enthroned forever; You are remembered throughout all generations.  
12 But thou, O LORD, shalt endure for ever; and thy remembrance unto all generations.

13 You will arise *and* have compassion on Zion; For it is time to be gracious to her, For the appointed time has come.  
13 You will arise *and* have compassion on Zion; For it is time to be gracious to her, For the appointed time has come.  
13 You will arise to extend compassion on Zion, for it is time to show her favor—the appointed time has come.  
13 Thou shalt arise, and have mercy upon Zion: for the time to favour her, yea, the set time, is come.

14 Surely Your servants take pleasure in her stones, And feel pity for her dust.  
14 Surely Your servants find pleasure in her stones And feel pity for her dust.  
14 Your servants take pleasure in its stones and delight in its debris.  
14 For thy servants take pleasure in her stones, and favour the dust thereof.  
15 So the nations will fear the name of the LORD, And all the kings of the earth, Your glory.  
15 So the nations will fear the name of the LORD And all the kings of the earth Your glory.  
15 Nations will fear the name of the LORD, and all the kings of the earth, your splendor.  
15 So the heathen shall fear the name of the LORD, and all the kings of the earth thy glory.

16 For the LORD has built up Zion; He has appeared in His glory.  
16 For the LORD has built up Zion; He has appeared in His glory.  
16 When the LORD rebuilds Zion, he will appear in his glory.  
16 When the LORD shall build up Zion, he shall appear in his glory.  
- Our Lord knew that through His sacrificial death Zion would ultimately be redeemed

17 He has turned His attention to the prayer of the destitute And has not despised their prayer.  
17 He has regarded the prayer of the destitute And has not despised their prayer.

17 He will turn to the prayer of the destitute, not despising their prayer.  
17 He will regard the prayer of the destitute, and not despise their prayer.

**18** This will be written for the generation to come, That a people yet to be created may praise the LORD:

**18** This will be written for the generation to come, That a people yet to be created may praise the LORD.

18 Write this for the next generation, that a people yet to be created will praise the LORD.

18 This shall be written for the generation to come: and the people which shall be created shall praise the LORD.

19 For He looked down from His holy height; From heaven the LORD looked upon the earth,

19 For He looked down from His holy height; From heaven the LORD gazed upon the earth,

19 For when he looked down from his holy heights— the LORD looked over the earth from heaven—

19 For he hath looked down from the height of his sanctuary; from heaven did the LORD behold the earth;

20 To hear the groaning of the prisoner, To set free those who were doomed to death,

20 To hear the groaning of the prisoner, To set free those who were doomed to death,

20 to listen to the groans of prisoners, to set free those condemned to death,

20 To hear the groaning of the prisoner; to loose those that are appointed to death;

21 So that *people* may tell of the name of the LORD in Zion, And His praise in Jerusalem,

21 That *men* may tell of the name of the LORD in Zion And His praise in Jerusalem,

21 so they would declare the name of the LORD in Zion and his praise in Jerusalem,

21 To declare the name of the LORD in Zion, and his praise in Jerusalem;

22 When the peoples are gathered together, And the kingdoms, to serve the LORD.

22 When the peoples are gathered together, And the kingdoms, to serve the LORD.

22 when people and kingdoms gather together to serve the LORD.

22 When the people are gathered together, and the kingdoms, to serve the LORD.

**23** He has broken my strength in the way; He has shortened my days.

**23** He has weakened my strength in the way; He has shortened my days.

23 He has weakened my strength along the way. He has cut short my days.

23 He weakened my strength in the way; he shortened my days.

24 I say, "My God, do not take me away in the middle of my days, Your years are throughout all generations.

24 I say, "O my God, do not take me away in the midst of my days, Your years are throughout all generations.

24 I say, "My God, whose years continue through all generations, do not take me in the middle of my life.

24 I said, O my God, take me not away in the midst of my days: thy years are throughout all generations.

25 "In time of old You founded the earth, And the heavens are the work of Your hands.

25 "Of old You founded the earth, And the heavens are the work of Your hands.

25 You established the earth long ago; the heavens are the work of your hands.

25 Of old hast thou laid the foundation of the earth: and the heavens are the work of thy hands.

26 "Even they will perish, but You endure; All of them will wear out like a garment; Like clothing You will change them and they will pass away.

26 "Even they will perish, but You endure; And all of them will wear out like a garment; Like clothing You will change them and they will be changed.

26 They will perish, but you will remain; and they all will become worn out, like a garment. You will change them like clothing, and they will pass away.

26 They shall perish, but thou shalt endure: yea, all of them shall wax old like a garment; as a vesture shalt thou change them, and they shall be changed:

27 "But You are the same, And Your years will not come to an end.

27 "But You are the same, And Your years will not come to an end.

27 But you remain the same; your years never end.

27 But thou art the same, and thy years shall have no end.

- The Holy Spirit quotes this passage in Heb 1:10-12, and we would not have known that Ps 102 was a Messianic psalm if it hadn't pleased the author of the Bible, the Spirit of God, to reveal the meaning of this section in the first chapter of Hebrews.

— Many "Jehovah passages" in the OT are applied to Jesus in the NT. These include: Ps 102:12,25-27 (Heb 1:10-12); Ex 3:14 (John 8:58; 18:5-6); Is 6:5 (John 12:41); Deut 10:17 (1 Tim 6:15); Is 6:1,8-10 (John 12:39-40); Is 53:1 (John 12:38); Ps 110:1 (Matt 22:41-45; Mark 12:35-37; Luke 20:41-44; Acts 2:34-36; Heb 1:13).

Heb 1:10-12 -

10 And, "YOU, LORD, IN THE BEGINNING LAID THE FOUNDATION OF THE EARTH, AND THE HEAVENS ARE THE WORKS OF YOUR HANDS;

11 THEY WILL PERISH, BUT YOU REMAIN; AND THEY ALL WILL WEAR OUT LIKE A GARMENT,

12 AND LIKE A ROBE YOU WILL ROLL THEM UP; LIKE A GARMENT THEY WILL ALSO BE CHANGED. BUT YOU ARE THE SAME, AND YOUR YEARS WILL NOT COME TO AN END."

28 "The children of Your servants will continue, And their descendants will be established before You."

28 "The children of Your servants will continue, And their descendants will be established before You."

28 May the descendants of your servants live securely, and may their children be established in your presence."

28 The children of thy servants shall continue, and their seed shall be established before thee.