

## Psalm 5<sup>1</sup>

# "A Plea For Help Because of Enemies"

For the choir director; for flute accompaniment. A Psalm of David.

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### A1 DAVID'S PLAINTIVE PLEA TO YAHWEH FOR HELP 5:1-3

#### B1 The Content of His Plea: Yahweh, Please Listen! 5:1-2

- C1 Request to Yahweh: {1} Give ear to my words, O LORD,
- C2 Request: Consider my groaning.
- C3 Request to His King-and-Elohim: {2} Heed the sound of my cry for help, my King and my God,
- C4 Reason: For to You I pray.

#### B2 The Time He Will Offer His Prayer: In the Morning<sup>2</sup> 5:3

- C1 His Confidence in Yahweh's Attention: {3} In the morning, O LORD, You will hear my voice;
- C2 His Eagerness to Offer His Prayer: In the morning I will order *my prayer* to You and *eagerly* watch.

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<sup>1</sup> Psalm 5. An individual lament *psalm* (*Ryrie Study Bible*).

<sup>2</sup> Psalm 5:3 - morning: It appears that David, at nighttime, is composing his musical prayer to God, perhaps while attempting to sleep (5:1-2). He resolves that he will offer it to God in the morning (5:3). He consoles himself with God's abhorrence of evil (5:4) and His relentless destruction of evil people (5:5-6). He resolves that (in the morning) He will go to Yahweh's house and worship Him (5:7). Then he proceeds to rehearse the prayer that he will then pray in the temple in the morning: He asks for guidance (5:8) because of his opponents, previously described (5:4-6) and further described (5:9); he asks for God to judge his opponents in their rebellion (5:10). Then he asks for God to bless and protect the righteous (5:11), for Yahweh alone is the source of blessing and protection (5:12).

NIV translates the Qal imperfect in 5:3, "In the morning, O Lord, **you hear** my voice; in the morning **I lay** my requests before you," etc. In this scenario, David prays, vss. 1-6, in the morning, resolving (v. 7) to go to Yahweh's house. He rehearses, beginning in v. 8, that which he will ask of Yahweh once he arrives in the tabernacle.

**A2 DAVID'S DESCRIPTION OF YAHWEH'S ABHORRENCE OF EVIL 5:4-6**

**B1 His Disassociation with Evil 5:4**

- C1 His Displeasure at Wickedness: {4} For You are not a God who takes pleasure in wickedness;
- C2 His Total Disassociation from Evil: No evil dwells with You.

**B2 His Destruction of Evil People 5:5-6**

- C1 His Repudiation of the Boastful: {5} The boastful shall not stand before Your eyes;
- C2 His Hatred of Evildoers: You hate all who do iniquity.
- C3 His Destruction of Liars: {6} You destroy those who speak falsehood;
- C4 His Abhorrence of Murderers and Liars: The LORD abhors the man of bloodshed and deceit.

**A3 DAVID'S DETERMINATION TO WORSHIP YAHWEH IN HIS HOUSE 5:7**

**B1 His Assurance of Entrance into Yahweh's House Based on Yahweh's Loyal Love:** {7} But as for me, by Your abundant lovingkindness I will enter Your house,

**B2 His Anticipation of Reverential Worship:** At Your holy temple I will bow in reverence for You.

**A4 DAVID'S PRAYER FOR YAHWEH TO DEFEAT HIS FOES AND BLESS THE RIGHTEOUS 5:8-12**

**B1 His Prayer for the Defeat of His Foes 5:8-10**

- C1 His Prayer to Yahweh for Guidance Because of His Foes 5:8
  - D1 For righteous guidance: {8} O LORD, lead me in Your righteousness because of my foes;<sup>3</sup>
  - D2 For clear revelation: Make Your way straight before me.
- C2 His Description of His Foes' Lack of Integrity 5:9
  - D1 Their unreliable speech: {9} There is nothing reliable in what they say;
  - D2 Their destructive core: Their inward part is destruction *itself*.

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<sup>3</sup> Psalm 5:8 - my foes: David understood that his foes were Yahweh's foes because they rebelled against Him (Psalm 5:10).

D3 Their defiling speech: Their throat is an open grave;<sup>4</sup>

D4 Their manipulative speech: They flatter with their tongue.

C3 His Plea for Elohim to Hold His Foes Accountable 5:10

D1 His pleas for judgment upon them

E1 For a guilty verdict: {10} Hold them guilty, O God;

E2 For poetic justice: By their own devices let them fall!

E3 On multiple counts: In the multitude of their transgressions thrust them out,

D2 His reason for judgment upon them: For they are rebellious against You.

**B2 His Prayer for Blessing for the Righteous 5:11-12**

C1 His prayer for the well-being of those take refuge in Yahweh and exult in Him 5:11

D1 For their joy

E1 Gladness: {11} But let all who take refuge in You be glad,

E2 Joyful song: Let them ever sing for joy;

D2 For their protection: And may You shelter them,

D3 For their exultation in Yahweh's name: That those who love Your name may exult in You.

C2 His acknowledgment that Yahweh alone is the source of blessing and grace for the righteous 5:12

D1 Yahweh's blessing; {12} For it is You who blesses the righteous man, O LORD,

D2 Yahweh's acceptance: You surround him with favor as with a shield.

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<sup>4</sup> Psalm 5:9 - Their throat is an open grave, signifying defilement and revulsion: Quoted in Rom. 3:13. The latter part of Ps. 5:9, "they flatter with their tongue," appears to be paraphrased in Rom. 3:13, "with their tongues they keep deceiving."

Expanded Analysis of Psalm 5

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