

Psalm 63

Search for God in the Desert Yielding Praise and Hope

A Psalm of David, when he was in the wilderness of Judah.

Scripture taken from the *NEW AMERICAN STANDARD BIBLE*®,
Copyright © 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1995 by the Lockman
Foundation. Used by permission. (www.Lockman.org).

A1 SEARCH: SEEKING FOR ELOHIM 63:1-2

B1 His Earnest Seeking for Elohim in the Desert 63:1

C1 His Earnest Search: {1} O God, You are my God; I shall seek You earnestly;¹

C2 His Thirst for Elohim in Dry and Barren Surroundings

D1 My soul thirsts for You, my flesh yearns for You,

D2 In a dry and weary land where there is no water.

B2 His Wistful Memory of Having Seen Elohim in the Tabernacle 63:2

C1 {2} Thus I have seen You in the sanctuary,

C2 To see Your power and Your glory.

A2 PRAISE: PRAISING ELOHIM 63:3-8

B1 His Vocal Praise of Elohim 63:3-5

C1 With His Lips Praising Elohim's Loyal Love 63:3

D1 {3} Because Your lovingkindness is better than life,

D2 My lips will praise You.

C2 With His Hands Lifted, Blessing Elohim's Name 63:4

D1 {4} So I will bless You as long as I live;

D2 I will lift up my hands in Your name.

¹ 63:1 - I shall seek You earnestly: This is the main verb of this two-verse paragraph. All other verbs are circumstantial, underscoring the intensity of David's search. According to Allen P. Ross (*The Bible Knowledge Commentary*), "This may also be translated, 'Early will I seek You.' This has prompted many believers to read this psalm in the mornings. To seek someone early suggests doing so earnestly."

C3 With His Mouth Praising Because of His Satisfied Soul 63:5

D1 {5} My soul is satisfied as with marrow and fatness,

D2 And my mouth offers praises with joyful lips.

B2 The Impetus for His Praise -- His Reflection² upon Elohim 63:6-8

C1 Meditating at Night 63:6

D1 {6} When I remember You on my bed,

D2 I meditate on You in the night watches,

C2 Singing Because of Elohim's Help and Safety 63:7

D1 Help: {7} For You have been my help,

D2 Singing Because of Safety: And in the shadow of Your wings I sing for joy.

C3 Clinging to Yahweh's Upholding Right Hand 63:8

D1 {8} My soul clings to You;

D2 Your right hand upholds me.

A3 HOPE: PREDICTING VICTORY FROM ELOHIM 63:9-11

B1 The Prediction of Doom for His Adversaries 63:9-10

C1 Their Souls Destined for Sheol 63:9

D1 Seeking to destroy David: {9} But those who seek my life to destroy it,

D2 They will find themselves in Sheol: Will go into the depths of the earth.

C2 Their Bodies Destined for Fox Food on the Battlefield 63:10

D1 Killed by the sword: {10} They will be delivered over to the power of the sword;

D2 Food for foxes: They will be a prey for foxes.

² Reflection, 63:6-8: The two main verbs in this section: I meditate (v. 6); I sing for joy (v. 7).

**B2 The Triumph of the Godly King and His Supporters over His Detractors
63:11**

- C1 The Joy of the King in Elohim: *{11}* But the king will rejoice in God;
- C2 The Jubilation of Those who Swear by Elohim: Everyone who swears by Him will glory,
- C3 The Silence of the Liars: For the mouths of those who speak lies will be stopped.

EXPANDED ANALYSIS OF PSALM 63

Prepared by James T. Bartsch

September, 2010. Updated October, 2013

Published Online by WordExplain.com

Email Contact: jbartsch@wordexplain.com

Scripture taken from the *NEW AMERICAN STANDARD BIBLE*®,
Copyright © 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1995 by the Lockman Foundation.
Used by permission. (www.Lockman.org)