



WELCOME TO BIBLE HOUSE OF GRACE

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Psalm 57

(2019)

Bible House of Grace contains an easy to read New and Old Testament commentary full of spiritual treasures and pearls, complete with an insightful resource guide illuminating God's love and grace.



Learn the
Bible
at Home

Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man, as to such I neither claim perfect knowledge or perfect understanding.

Psalm 57.

Topics.

- I cry out to God Most High, to God who fulfils his purpose for me.
- God will save me according to His steadfast love and faithfulness.
- God will put to shame him who tramples on me.
- Be exalted, O God, let your glory be over all the earth.
- They dug a pit in my way, but they have fallen into it themselves:
- My heart is steadfast, O God, let your glory be over the earth.
- I will sing praises to you among the nations.

FOR INFORMATION: concerning people, places and the meaning of words see the title: "Map Locations and People of the Bible," and the title: "Bible Dictionary" on Website Menu.

INTRODUCTION

Psalms are songs and prayers offered to God by the nation Israel, they cover the range of human emotion, expressing praise, faith, victory, sorrow, despair, depression, frustration and the troubled heart of a mourner. They contrast the righteous with the wicked, and include the wisdom and the treasure of God's word. Psalms were written at the beginning of the 15th century BC and probably collected in their final form in the 3rd century.

1

BOOK TWO (PSALM 42-72)

PSALM 57:1-4:

To the Choirmaster: According to, "Do Not Destroy." A Miktam of David, when he fled from Saul, in the cave.

I cry Out to God Most High, to God who fulfils his Purpose for Me.

- **Psalm 57:1-4:** Be merciful to me, O God, be merciful to me, for in you my soul takes refuge; in the shadow of your wings I will take refuge, till the storms of destruction pass by. ²I cry out to God Most High, to God who fulfils his purpose for me. ³He will send from heaven and save me; he will put to shame him who tramples on me. *Selah* God will send out his steadfast love and his faithfulness! ⁴My soul is in the midst of lions; I lie down amid fiery beasts—the children of man, whose teeth are spears and arrows, whose tongues are sharp swords.

David is surrounded by very powerful and fierce enemies who have great authority and verbally set a trap for him, his enemies are so fierce he feels he is:

- Trapped in a ring of a pack of ferocious, hungry and wild lions seeking to devour him as prey.
- Encircled by monstrous dragons spewing out fire to reduce him to ashes.
- Surrounded by men whose words of deceit and lies are like sharp swords slicing his flesh and heart to little pieces.

Here is David's great faith while in the midst of these devouring, fierce and ferocious enemies he takes refuge in the shadow of God's wings. The picture here is of a baby eagle gathering under the wings of the King of birds and of the parent eagle protecting the helpless little chick from every type of predator that seeks to devour it.

- The LORD found him (Israel) in a desert land, and in the howling waste of the wilderness; he encircled him, he cared for him, he kept him as the apple of his eye. ¹¹Like an eagle that stirs up its nest, that flutters over its young, spreading out its wings, catching them, bearing them on its pinions (Deut. 32:11).

These verses picture the LORD as an eagle caring for his young and building nests of warmth and spreading out his wings over them to shelter and protect them from harm and when they do fall catching them and lifting them up to be with him and his family. The nest being built can be seen to symbolise God's love, grace and mercy, His wings can be seen as His Spirit and the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ and He lifts us up by His forgiveness.

NOTICE: God encircled His people and cared for them as the apple of His eye, meaning His greatest love. The faithful who belong to His global family will make up His treasured possession in the Lord's Kingdom.

The prophet Isaiah wrote:

- They who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint. (Isa. 40:31).

This can be applied to a particular trial, sorrow or grief that we are patiently praying will pass, but its ultimate fulfilment will be when the Lord Jesus Christ returns in glory to gather those who are his to himself. Those who endure to this glorious day will be raised to immortality and eternal life where happiness is everlasting and suffering, sorrow and grief is swallowed up in joy and laughter and weariness and strife is replaced with endless vitality and peace.

2

Be merciful to me, O God: (v1) the word merciful comes from the Hebrew word (*chanan*) and means to bend or stoop in kindness and favour to an inferior and graciously bestow a blessing upon them. In the context of the invisible, immortal Almighty God the creator of all things and source of all life it carries the idea of a superior being stooping down to bless an inferior creature. David often begins his prayers with the words, "Be merciful to me God," because he was fully aware that he was not without sin before God and that it is only by God's mercy that any of us are saved.

God the Most High who fulfils his purpose for me: (v2) it is certain this applies to God delivering David from the devouring, fierce and ferocious enemies seeking to destroy him, but contained within the language is the following covenant and eternal promise God made to David.

- The LORD declares to you (David) that the LORD will make you a house. ¹²When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. ¹³He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. ¹⁴I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son. (2 Sam. 7:11-16).
- The LORD said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one; I have sworn to David my servant: ⁴I will establish your offspring forever, and build your throne for all generations." (Psalm 89:3-4).
- The LORD swore to David a sure oath from which he will not turn back: "One of the sons of your body I will set on your throne." (Psalm 132:11).
- For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no

end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this. (Isaiah 9:6-7).

- A throne will be established in steadfast love, and on it will sit in faithfulness in the tent of David one who judges, seeks justice and is swift to do righteousness. (Isaiah 16:5).

At the appointed time the angel Gabriel came to Mary and said:

- Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus.
³²He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, ³³and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end. (Luke 1:31-33).

The heart and mind of the faithful Christian soars in excitement when reading such amazing Old Testament promises and prophecies concerning David, because they prove the reality of the Christian faith since they were prophesied thousands of years before the actual events came to pass. What other religion has such amazing and awesome evidence of the reality of their faith?

Truly such prophecies shine a brilliant spotlight on the truth the Bible is the inspired word of God.

God will save me according to His steadfast love and faithfulness: (v3) meaning God will save him to eternal life according to His love and grace in contrast to judging him in wrath and condemning him to eternal death (i.e., total and utter extinction). The following words of Paul show the enormous importance of trusting in God's grace in Christ. Paul in his letters wrote:

- I do not nullify the *GRACE* of God, for if justification were through the law (or any form of religious self-effort), then Christ died for no purpose (Gal. 2:21).

This means, when a brother or sister in Christ begin to justify themselves through the law and self-effort, they nullify the grace of God and by their actions declare that Christ's death was of no value.

Equally as horrific as this Paul states:

- When we forsake *GRACE* we separate ourselves from Christ because it was only by *GRACE* that God made us alive in Christ (Gal. 5:4) (Eph. 2:5).

Paul to highlight even more the majestic glory of grace wrote with absolute boldness that:

- It is only by *GRACE* that any brother or sister has been saved (Eph. 2:8).

Paul in these verses is shining a brilliant floodlight on the truth that every brother and sister in Christ is saved, solely by faith and by grace and it is not their own doing, but the gift of God. This means that without grace no-one can be united to Christ and whoever is without Christ is separated from God and without God no-one can be saved to eternal life. This means in regards to eternal salvation, Christ, God, grace and faith, are all on an equal par with each other since no-one can be saved to eternal life without any one of them.

This is the reason the author in the book of Hebrews spends so many chapters brilliantly and skilfully explaining to the Hebrews that they must stop their sin of trusting in religious works, the Levitical Law and their priesthood to be counted righteous before God and start trusting in the grace of God that is in Christ and in his righteousness to be saved to eternal life. By extension this means that Christians must stop trusting in attending a church building every week, strictly adhering to ceremonial rites and holy days and keeping religious customs and traditions to be saved. Though the practise of some of these maybe good in themselves they become grossly sinful when believers trust in them for their salvation since not one of them has any power to save to eternal life.

God will put to shame him who tramples on me: (v3) clearly this refers to enemies who come against David and his kingdom, especially those whose only motivation is to bring David to ruin so they can gain greater power wealth, land and riches themselves. But it is not limited to David's era only but can be applied to all who come against the Kingdom of David's seed the Lord Jesus Christ. Whoever aggressively persecutes the faithful of David's kingdom and the Kingdom of the promised King and Saviour to come from David's seed will be trampled underfoot when Christ returns in glory as King of kings and Lord of lords to establish God's Kingdom of righteousness, justice, joy and peace on earth.

PSALM 57:5

Be Exalted, O God, Let your Glory be over All the Earth.

- **Psalm 57:5:** Be exalted, O God, above the heavens! Let your glory be over all the earth!

These words will be fulfilled in their fullness when Jesus returns in glory as King of kings and Lord of lords (Rev. 19:11-16) to rule and reign from God's Holy City Jerusalem (on Mount Zion God's Holy Mountain) to establish God's Kingdom on earth during his glorious millennial reign. The dead in Christ (Old and New Testament) and the faithful, who are alive, will be gathered together in the first resurrection (Rev. 20:4-6) to rule and reign as kings and priests with the Lord over those nations who are left outside the Holy City of God. Christ the King united with his people will not only bring peace to the Middle East, but establish God's Kingdom of steadfast love, faithfulness, righteousness, joy and peace throughout the world and the glory of God will cover the earth. Jesus will do justice to the poor and oppressed, he will be a faithful and compassionate King forever. He will not allow anyone to strike terror in the earth or use lies and deception to enlarge their own wealth and power. The land will abundantly produce and even the deserts will flourish. The animals will not feed on each other and even the lamb will be able to lie down with the wolf and everyone will eat of their own hands because all that they plant will produce. All nations the LORD has made will come and worship before the Lord Jesus Christ. They will glorify God's Name, proclaiming the LORD is great and does wondrous things and that He alone is God.

The book of Revelation states:

- Jesus Christ, the faithful witness who loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood has made us kings and priests unto God and his Father is coming in glory and every eye shall see him, and they also who pierced him and all kindreds of the earth (Revelation 1:5-7).

In Revelation chapter five we are told that:

- Christ was slain, and by his blood he redeemed a people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation and made them a kingdom and priests to God and they shall reign on the earth (Revelation 5:9-10).

The great prophet Isaiah wrote:

- They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. (Isaiah 11:9).

At the end of this glorious Kingdom age God descends to earth on a Great White Throne the sea, death and hades (the grave) give up the dead. They stand before God and are judged according to what is written in certain heavenly books according to what they have done. Death and those counted unworthy are cast into the Lake of Fire a symbol of eternal destruction (i.e., total extinction) (also called the, Second Death) (Rev. 20:11-15). Christ hands the Kingdom over to his heavenly Father and God is ALL in ALL and ETERNITY begins in all its fullness and majestic royal glory. For further information see titles:

- Kingdom of God (ON WEBSITE MENU).
- The Second Resurrection or Great White Throne Judgment.

In, Resurrection (ON WEBSITE MENU).

PSALM 57:6

They Dug a Pit in My Way, but they have Fallen into it Themselves.

- **Psalm 57:6:** They set a net for my steps; my soul was bowed down. They dug a pit in my way, but they have fallen into it themselves. *Selah*

They have fallen into their own pit because they were not only plotting and planning evil against David who God had made a covenant promise with, but were also plotting evil against the Kingdom of God. All who persecute and mock the faithful and speak evil against them are by their evil actions digging the same pit for their own end if they do not repent of their evil behaviour and speech against God's children.

PSALM 57:7-11

My Heart is Steadfast, O God, Let your Glory be Over the Earth.

- **Psalm 57:7-11:** My heart is steadfast, O God, my heart is steadfast! I will sing and make melody! ⁸Awake, my glory! Awake, O harp and lyre! I will awake the dawn! ⁹I will give thanks to you, O Lord, among the peoples; I will sing praises to you among the nations. ¹⁰For your steadfast love is great to the heavens, your faithfulness to the clouds. ¹¹Be exalted, O God, above the heavens! Let your glory be over all the earth!

These verses shine a brilliant spotlight on David's great faith, he is surrounded by powerful men whose entire goal is to bring him to ruin and destruction, yet in the depths of his inner most being he praises God and without hesitation proclaims to God that no matter what may befall him he will remain steadfast in love toward Him and sing praises amongst the congregation of the faithful. How similar is this to Christians today who are under some form of crisis, physically, financially, mentally, emotionally or spiritually and yet can come together with their brothers and sister and worship the Lord, showing that their faith is greater than their emotions, their feelings, their stress and their troublesome circumstance. How the LORD must delight in this kind of sacrificial praise and worship. This is the faith David had it mattered not to him whether he was in great joy and prosperity or great fear of enemies or crying on his bed in deep sorrow he would always praise God for His steadfast love and His faithfulness.

He did not determine God's love and faithfulness by his circumstances or his emotions and feelings. His faith was such that he believed God is always faithful to him and always loving him even though it may appear in his emotions and feelings or by his outward circumstance to be contrary. David's Psalms and prayers clearly show that he perceived God's great love regardless of his circumstances (God or bad) this is why he could be openly and sometimes brutally be honest before God in prayer. To have the steadfast love of God dwelling in his heart was his greatest treasure. Sadly, some today do not perceive the love of God as David did and because of this lack of perception of God's love and grace tend to determine whether God loves them by their good or bad circumstances. They feel if life is charmed and blessed God loves them, but if it suddenly takes a turn for the worse and trouble comes, they feel God has withdrawn his love, but this is superstition and judging God according to the fickle circumstances of this world. When anyone today who believes in Christ doubts God's love all we have to do is look back to the bloodstained cross and see what it cost the heart of the Father to save us and how much his

Son suffered to redeem us and spiritually crown and cloth us with his royal and majestic robe of righteousness so that we could be justified and granted eternal life in everlasting glory apart from self-effort and strictly adhering to ceremonial rites and holy days or keeping religious customs and traditions. This truth should comfort every faithful brother and sister in Christ since it is certain if God was prepared to sacrifice his Son for us, while we were indifferent and apathetic toward Him and uninterested and unconcerned about what honoured Him and what didn't He will with great joy do everything to keep us for eternal life now we love His Son. (He does this by daily lavishing us with grace).

I will sing praises to you among the nations: (v9) this of course refers to David proclaiming the goodness of God amongst the nations of his generations which he did through:

- His own testimony and praising God in the streets of Jerusalem.

Even today David is still singing praises amongst the nations through:

- His many Psalms and own personal history, stories and testimony.
- His son Solomon and the building of God's Temple.
- His Son the Lord Jesus Christ and through all the faithful who belong to his global Kingdom.

The author of Hebrews cites David's statement, "I will sing praises to you among the nations," in the following verses:

- It was fitting that he (God), for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the founder (Christ) of their salvation perfect through suffering. ¹¹For he (Christ) who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one origin (God). That is why he (Christ) is not ashamed to call them brothers, ¹²saying, "I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will sing your praise." ¹³And again, "I will put my trust in him." And again, "Behold, I and the children God has given me." (Heb. 2:10-13).

Thousands of years before the promised seed of David come into the world David spoke these words and here the author of Hebrews in citing them applies them to the Lord Jesus Christ the offspring of David such is the wonder and glory of Scripture.

Let your glory be over all the earth: (v11) this will be fulfilled during Christ glorious millennial Kingdom age when he is ruling and reigning as King of kings and lord of lords to establish God's Kingdom of righteousness, justice, joy and peace on earth. For further information see the notes following (v5-6) under the title: "Let your glory be over all the earth." (above).

As the founder of Bible House of Grace, I would like to thank the many Christian scholars, commentators and theologians who have gone before me, and the many today, who have freely made available their works to enhance the knowledge of the Bible to all people worldwide. It is only with the help of these faithful writers that much of Bible House of Grace exists as it does today.
