

Studies in Psalms by [John T Polk II](#) For [The Fellowship Room](#)

Psalms 28

10/24/12

Vs. 1-2 appeal to God for a hearing;
Vs. 3-5 justify God's handling of the wicked;
Vs. 6-7 voice David's praise for God's response;
Vs. 8-9 include the rest of God's people of faith.

Verses 1-2 express the panic that overcomes us when we keenly feel our need for God, but because our sins may have separated us from Him, we need to know He has heard. In the New Testament, Paul desired "that the men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting" (1 Timothy 2:8). Prayer should be from those whose hands are engaged in holy living (Hebrews 12:14).

Verses 3-5 approve whatever God does to the wicked, "who speak peace to their neighbors, But evil *is* in their hearts." No one is authorized by God to: 1) promise "You shall have peace" to those who "despise" God; or 2) encourage people to ignore God's Word by promising them "No evil shall come upon you," but for them to "only follow your heart," "do as you please," or "let no one tell you 'you cannot'" (Jeremiah 23:16-18). The Bible warns of those, who "when they speak great swelling words of emptiness, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, through lewdness, the ones who have actually escaped from those who live in error. While they promise them liberty, they themselves are slaves of corruption; for by whom a person is overcome, by him also he is brought into bondage" (2 Peter 2:18-19). Wars abound while worldly leaders ignore the Prince of Peace to have their "peace processes;" sin abounds while religious leaders slice down the Gospel's doctrine to "pray and do good works;" "professors and theologians" deny the Bible's authenticity while proclaiming their own "scholarship;" and, then, all wonder why people don't go to church or read the Bible!

"Though a sinner does evil a hundred *times*, and his *days* are prolonged, yet I surely know that it will be well with those who fear God, who fear before Him" (Ecclesiastes 8:12). God is justified to "Render to them what they deserve." The practice of sin "deserves" the punishment for sin. "And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light" (John 3:19). To "scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites" Jesus said, "Serpents, brood of vipers! How can you escape the condemnation of hell?" (Matthew 23:33). Jesus came to deliver the obedient from that punishment, as stated by Paul: "Yes, we had the sentence of death in ourselves, that we should not trust in ourselves but in God who raises the dead, who delivered us from so great a death, and does deliver us; in whom we trust that He will still deliver us" (2 Corinthians 1:9-10).

Verses 6-7 should encourage us to look around and acknowledge what God has done to answer our prayers.



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Verses 8-9 show David was not selfish, because he included the rest of God’s people in his prayer for assistance. God is not the God of one person, but of any and all who “fear Him” (Acts 10:34-35; Romans 3:28-30). Therefore individual prayers do not overrule “the will of God” (Romans 1:9-10).

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