

Psalm 57

“1 Be merciful unto me, O God, be merciful unto me: for my soul trusteth in thee: yea, in the shadow of thy wings will I make my refuge, until these calamities be overpast. 2 I will cry unto God most high; unto God that performeth all things for me. 3 He shall send from heaven, and save me from the reproach of him that would swallow me up. Selah. God shall send forth his mercy and his truth. 4 My soul is among lions: and I lie even among them that are set on fire, even the sons of men, whose teeth are spears and arrows, and their tongue a sharp sword. 5 Be thou exalted, O God, above the heavens; let thy glory be above all the earth. 6 They have prepared a net for my steps; my soul is bowed down: they have digged a pit before me, into the midst whereof they are fallen themselves. Selah. 7 My heart is fixed, O God, my heart is fixed: I will sing and give praise. 8 Awake up, my glory; awake, psaltery and harp: I myself will awake early. 9 I will praise thee, O Lord, among the people: I will sing unto thee among the nations. 10 For thy mercy is great unto the heavens, and thy truth unto the clouds. 11 Be thou exalted, O God, above the heavens: let thy glory be above all the earth.” (Psalm 57:1-11 KJV)

David penned this psalm upon the occasion when he was traced and followed by King Saul trying to kill him. He was at the strong hold at engedi, when he and his men entered a cave and found out that Saul entering the same cave that he was hiding with his men. We can read the narrate of this story in *1 Samuel 24:1-7*, *“1 And it came to pass, when Saul was returned from following the Philistines, that it was told him, saying, Behold, David is in the wilderness of Engedi. 2 Then Saul took three thousand chosen men out of all Israel, and went to seek David and his men upon the rocks of the wild goats. 3 And he came to the sheepcotes by the way, where was a cave; and Saul went in to cover his feet: and David and his men remained in the sides of the cave. 4 And the men of David said unto him, Behold the day of which the LORD said unto thee, Behold, I will deliver thine enemy into thine hand, that thou mayest do to him as it shall seem good unto thee. Then David arose, and cut off the skirt of Saul's robe privily. 5 And it came to pass afterward, that David's heart smote him, because he had cut off Saul's skirt. 6 And he said unto his men, The LORD forbid that I should do this thing unto my master, the LORD's anointed, to stretch forth mine hand against him, seeing he is the anointed of the LORD. 7 So David stayed his servants with these words, and suffered them not to rise against Saul. But Saul rose up out of the cave, and went on his way.” (1 Samuel 24:1-7 KJV)*

David was with his six hundreds men, when they entered that cave to hide from King Saul who was pursuing them with three thousands chosen men to seek the life of David. *“13 Then David and his men, which were about six hundred, arose and departed out of Keilah, and went whithersoever they could go. And it was told Saul that David was escaped from Keilah; and he forbore to go forth. 14 And David abode in the wilderness in strong holds, and remained in a mountain in the wilderness of Ziph. And Saul sought him every day, but God delivered him not into his hand. 15 And David saw that Saul was come out to seek his life: and David was in the wilderness of Ziph in a wood.” (1 Samuel 23:13-15 KJV)* *“19 Then came up the Ziphites to Saul to Gibeath, saying, Doth not David hide himself with us in strong holds in the wood, in*

the hill of Hachilah, which is on the south of Jeshimon? 20 Now therefore, O king, come down according to all the desire of thy soul to come down; and our part shall be to deliver him into the king's hand. 21 And Saul said, Blessed be ye of the LORD; for ye have compassion on me. 22 Go, I pray you, prepare yet, and know and see his place where his haunt is, and who hath seen him there: for it is told me that he dealeth very subtilly. 23 See therefore, and take knowledge of all the lurking places where he hideth himself, and come ye again to me with the certainty, and I will go with you: and it shall come to pass, if he be in the land, that I will search him out throughout all the thousands of Judah. 24 And they arose, and went to Ziph before Saul: but David and his men were in the wilderness of Maon, in the plain on the south of Jeshimon. 25 Saul also and his men went to seek him. And they told David; wherefore he came down into a rock, and abode in the wilderness of Maon. And when Saul heard that, he pursued after David in the wilderness of Maon. 26 And Saul went on this side of the mountain, and David and his men on that side of the mountain: and David made haste to get away for fear of Saul; for Saul and his men compassed David and his men round about to take them. 27 But there came a messenger unto Saul, saying, Haste thee, and come; for the Philistines have invaded the land. 28 Wherefore Saul returned from pursuing after David, and went against the Philistines: therefore they called that place Selahammahlekoth. 29 And David went up from thence, and dwelt in strong holds at Engedi.” (1 Samuel 23:19-29 KJV)

David from what we read was passing through a turmoil of trials and sure his mind and thoughts was loaded with heavy thoughts, and might even put the question why he was passing through all that and why God allow King Saul to continue to pursue him. Was it that because of sin? Was it that a testing to his faith? Was it that a consequence of a mistake or sin he has done? Life in the same way may put pressure on us and try us from every side or corner. Therefore we should not take the things negatively and start to think that God is against us. *Do not allow the trial that you are passing through let you feel or believe that God is against you or that God is not with you. God allows you to pass through such a trial for a purpose and for a time, and all what you need to do is to endure it and persevere in it.*

“1 Be merciful unto me, O God, be merciful unto me: for my soul trusteth in thee: yea, in the shadow of thy wings will I make my refuge, until these calamities be overpast.” (Psalm 57:1 KJV) David he was hiding with his six hundred men in a very large cave, and they were not expecting that Saul will come to the same place that they were hiding. Sure that was a very unexpected incidence that David and his men passed in their lives. The entrance of these huge caves in the mountain would be smaller than its size. David and his men were hiding at the back of the cave in the dark and their eyes directed toward the entrance of the cave. All of a sudden they will see the army of Israel, Saul the king with the three thousands men approaching the entrance of the cave. As if they are seeing the end of their lives and watching the dangers approaching them.

Certain times we might trust certain things in our lives that we can use to hide from the threats and dangers. Some people or you yourself might trust friends, certain influential people, money, talents, profession, man's power, or whatever scientific progress that they or you think it will be of great help to them in facing threats and dangers. But in realities, these might be important, but it will not replace the need of God in their lives or in your life.

In the place that we think we are safe, in the same place we can see lions around us. David might be trusting that this remote cave will be a good hide for him from the enemy, but it prove now it is of no protection to him. The danger came to him to the place that he think it is safe. That is why he cried out to God to be merciful to him, ***“1 Be merciful unto me, O God, be merciful unto me.” (Psalm 57:1 KJV)*** David here he asserted his position that he trusted in the Lord and on His power, and He is hiding in the shadow of his wings, ***“Yea, in the shadow of thy wings will I make my refuge, until these calamities be overpast.” (Psalm 57:1 KJV)*** *In the same way, today the trials that we are passing through should help us o understand that what we had built our trust on is of no help at all. To trust God and hide under his wings is the best place that we can stay and abide: “1 He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. 2 I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.” (Psalm 91:1-2 KJV)*

In any calamities that would come into our lives, we need to be assured that only God can save us from all troubles that would pass into our lives. Our preparation for the battle is important but cannot replace the value of trusting God fully in our lives and what He can do for us.

“2 I will cry unto God most high; unto God that performeth all things for me.” (Psalm 57:2 KJV) God saved David from that critical situation and saved him from the hands of his fieriest enemy when David cried to the Lord. God had provided and performed all the things needed for him to manage his life into the very purpose of God. *In troubles we need to learn to cry out to God and He will deliver us from our enemies.*

See how the enemy came very near to David with vast number of people, and they did not doubt that David and his men are hiding in that place. No one would know what God did to Saul to convince him to overlook the possibility that David and his men were hiding in the cave. Saul came to ease himself, and to cover his feet, to sleep for a while, but he did not discover David. ***“And he came to the sheepcotes by the way, where was a cave; and Saul went in to cover his feet: and David and his men remained in the sides of the cave.” (1 Samuel 24:3 KJV)*** David after such experience valued more the presence of God in His life. Therefore he decided that He will cry and pray to God the most high, who is above all circumstances and situations. *Let us learn to cry to God, who is the only one who can relief us and deliver us from our enemies.*

“3 He shall send from heaven, and save me from the reproach of him that would swallow me up. Selah. God shall send forth his mercy and his truth.” (Psalm 57:3 KJV) God sure in that incident sent from heaven aid to David and to his men to save them from death. When Saul and his men entered the cave, God hid David and his men from them, and He gave to Saul and his men deep sleep so that David and his men can flee. God even in certain time would sent His angel to fight for His people, ***“13 But to which of the angels said he at any time, Sit on my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool? 14 Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?” (Hebrews 1:13-14 KJV)***

We have the good example of the angel that sent by God to save Peter and delivered him from death, ***“7 And, behold, the angel of the Lord came upon him, and a light shined in the prison: and he smote Peter on the side, and raised him up, saying, Arise up quickly. And his chains fell off from his hands. 8 And the angel said unto him, Gird thyself, and bind on thy sandals. And so he did. And he saith unto him, Cast thy garment about thee, and follow me. 9 And he went out, and followed him; and wist not that it was true which was done by the angel; but thought he saw a vision. 10 When they were past the first and the second ward, they came unto the iron gate that leadeth unto the city; which opened to them of his own accord: and they went out, and passed on through one street; and forthwith the angel departed from him. 11 And when Peter was come to himself, he said, Now I know of a surety, that the LORD hath sent his angel, and hath delivered me out of the hand of Herod, and from all the expectation of the people of the Jews.” (Acts 12:7-11 KJV)***

“God shall send forth his mercy and his truth.” (Psalm 57:3 KJV) God in that incident in ***Psalm 57***, He not only sent His mercy and saved David, but he also sent the truth. He instructed David with the truth of God and what He needs to do with Saul that he was laying down and was put in his hand. The men of David ignited him to strike Saul but David refused and told them the reason, ***“4 And the men of David said unto him, Behold the day of which the LORD said unto thee, Behold, I will deliver thine enemy into thine hand, that thou mayest do to him as it shall seem good unto thee. Then David arose, and cut off the skirt of Saul's robe privily. 5 And it came to pass afterward, that David's heart smote him, because he had cut off Saul's skirt. 6 And he said unto his men, The LORD forbid that I should do this thing unto my master, the LORD's anointed, to stretch forth mine hand against him, seeing he is the anointed of the LORD. 7 So David stayed his servants with these words, and suffered them not to rise against Saul. But Saul rose up out of the cave, and went on his way.” (1 Samuel 24:4-7 KJV)*** *When we pass through hardships God still wants us to live according to the truth. We should not do the wrong things in order to relief ourselves.*

Do not be tempted to do wrong just to relief yourself, for God still wants you to follow and abide in the instructions of His Word and to avoid doing any evil while you are passing hard time and trials.

The reason that God sent deep sleep on Saul and on His men, so that David and His men, can be able to leave the cave and escape smoothly without being noticed or followed by Saul and His men. *God certain times gives us the upper hand over our enemies so that we can escape from their harms and not because He want us to revenge from them or harm them.*

“4 My soul is among lions: and I lie even among them that are set on fire, even the sons of men, whose teeth are spears and arrows, and their tongue a sharp sword.” (Psalm 57:4 KJV) Saul and his men who entered the cave seeking after David and his men, made David surrounded by lions, as they were seeking his life.

Like our Lord Jesus when he came on earth was surrounded by lions who wanted to devour His life when He was persecuted, when He was threatened and tracked by the Jewish, and He was arrested and crucified: ***“12 Many bulls have compassed me: strong bulls of Bashan***

have beset me round. 13 They gaped upon me with their mouths, as a ravening and a roaring lion. 21 Save me from the lion's mouth: for thou hast heard me from the horns of the unicorns.” (Psalm 22:12-13, 21 KJV)

Such evil things that was done against Jesus, we can read also in the other Scriptures: *“In that same hour said Jesus to the multitudes, Are ye come out as against a thief with swords and staves for to take me? I sat daily with you teaching in the temple, and ye laid no hold on me.” (Matthew 26:55 KJV) “Then did they spit in his face, and buffeted him; and others smote him with the palms of their hands.” (Matthew 26:67 KJV) “Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the common hall, and gathered unto him the whole band of soldiers.” (Matthew 27:27 KJV) “39 And they that passed by reviled him, wagging their heads, 40 And saying, Thou that destroyest the temple, and buildest it in three days, save thyself. If thou be the Son of God, come down from the cross. 41 Likewise also the chief priests mocking him, with the scribes and elders, said.” (Matthew 27:39-41 KJV)*

Trials of life may put us among lions and furious people, but we need to trust God who will deliver us from such perils. The devil is a roaring lion, *“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.” (1 Peter 5:8 KJV)* Apostle Paul also was put in such circumstances and delivered out from the mouth of the lion, *“Notwithstanding the Lord stood with me, and strengthened me; that by me the preaching might be fully known, and that all the Gentiles might hear: and I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion.” (2 Timothy 4:17 KJV)*

Trials God will allow in our lives, but He will work them out and allow us to be delivered even out from the mouth of the lions, so that we can see the greatness of God and will exalt Him, praise Him and glorify Him.

“4 And I lie even among them that are set on fire, even the sons of men, whose teeth are spears and arrows, and their tongue a sharp sword.” (Psalm 57:4 KJV) David was expressing that he is among men who will be set on the fire of hell because of their transgressions in telling lies, slandered David to Saul and finally they came to slaughter David. David was given opportunity to finish Saul's life but he did not do it because God forbid him to do that. After Saul left the cave, David followed him and upbraided him, of why he is listening to others who are telling him lies, that David would destroy him. *“7 So David stayed his servants with these words, and suffered them not to rise against Saul. But Saul rose up out of the cave, and went on his way. 8 David also arose afterward, and went out of the cave, and cried after Saul, saying, My lord the king. And when Saul looked behind him, David stooped with his face to the earth, and bowed himself. 9 And David said to Saul, Wherefore hearest thou men's words, saying, Behold, David seeketh thy hurt? 10 Behold, this day thine eyes have seen how that the LORD had delivered thee to day into mine hand in the cave: and some bade me kill thee: but mine eye spared thee; and I said, I will not put forth mine hand against my lord; for he is the LORD's anointed.” (1 Samuel 24:7-10 KJV)*

“5 Be thou exalted, O God, above the heavens; let thy glory be above all the earth.” (Psalm 57:5 KJV) The deliverance that God made for David in that occasion proved to him, that God is above all, therefore he wrote, *Be thou exalted, O God, above the heavens; let thy glory be above all the earth.* God not only delivered David from the hand of his enemies but He put David even above his enemies and made them see clearly that David is above them and that God is with him and had given David the upper hand above them.

Truly God is above all and the glory and the power of God is above all wisdom as we can witness how God is delivering us from all our troubles and our enemies. Therefore, as the Lord is delivering us from troubles, trials and our enemies, let us exalt His name above all things as David did, *“5 Be thou exalted, O God, above the heavens; let thy glory be above all the earth.”*

“6 They have prepared a net for my steps; my soul is bowed down: they have digged a pit before me, into the midst whereof they are fallen themselves. Selah.” (Psalm 57:6 KJV) David experienced how they were setting a net to trap his steps. They had digged a pit for him. His soul was bowed down due to the pressure that was laid on him. But God made it possible that those who were doing such things to him, themselves fell down in the trap and in the same snare that they prepared for David. *“15 He made a pit, and digged it, and is fallen into the ditch which he made. 16 His mischief shall return upon his own head, and his violent dealing shall come down upon his own pate.” (Psalm 7:15-16 KJV) “The heathen are sunk down in the pit that they made: in the net which they hid is their own foot taken.” (Psalm 9:15 KJV)* They did the same with our Lord Jesus Christ, but God delivered Him from all those snares and traps. *As we pray and continue to trust God then God will work out for our sake marvelous things, and the enemies that are distressing us we will find them trapped by the snare that they prepared for us.*

“7 My heart is fixed, O God, my heart is fixed: I will sing and give praise.” (Psalm 57:7 KJV) David concluded, assured and assertive faith after the great things that God did to him in dealing with his enemies. *In the same way let our hearts be also fixed and let us say it and live it, my heart is fixed: and for this reason we will sing and give praise to our God.*

“8 Awake up, my glory; awake, psaltery and harp: I myself will awake early.” (Psalm 57:8 KJV) King's David soul revived and rejuvenated and he was in high spirit toward God and turned his life's theme unto joy and praise. David is calling his soul to wake up and give glory to God, who had save his life in a wonderful way. David was so elated that he called the instruments to wake up and to give praises to God.

“9 I will praise thee, O Lord, among the people: I will sing unto thee among the nations.” (Psalm 57:9 KJV) To what David witnessed and how God delivered him in a marvelous way, he was able to see God and His mercy and truth above all, *“10 For thy mercy is great unto the heavens, and thy truth unto the clouds.” (Psalm 57:10 KJV)* With such a testimony David said and committed himself to praise God among the nations.

Apostle Paul in response to the trials that he was passing through and how God delivered him from his enemies, He quoted from **Psalm 57** verses 9 and 10 and committed himself to tell the nations about the Lord, *“9 And that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy;*

as it is written, For this cause I will confess to thee among the Gentiles, and sing unto thy name.” (Romans 15:9 KJV)

My Dear and Beloved: King Saul and the three thousands men with him they came to search for David and to hunt him. They came to the place that he was hiding. They came knowing that cave is one of the possible places that David was hiding in. The question is, how Saul and his men changed their mind and got no doubt that David is not in the cave? Only God knows. It is God who changed their thoughts and minds and spared David from their threats. David realized that God did great miracle in that place, he allowed even Saul to trust the place and used it to lay down to sleep. God even put Saul's life in David's hands. Therefore after his departure, David was able to see that God was with him in all his trials and God was above all; who was watching closely upon all the details of the situations that David was passing through, above all was watching over his life. Therefore King David sang, **“11 Be thou exalted, O God, above the heavens: let thy glory be above all the earth.” (Psalm 57:11 KJV)**

Therefore,

- Let us be inspired with what God did to David to save his life.
- Let us trust God for our life and cause, as we continue to serve Him and do His will.
- Let us trust God that He is there with us in the midst of the most difficult trial in our lives.
- Let us trust God that He will not allow our enemies to prevail.
- Let us trust God that He will hide us and He will protect us from all our enemies.
- Let us trust God that He will give us the upper hand and put us even over our enemies.
- Let us trust God that He will lead us and sustain us to achieve all what He assigned to us to do till He come and take us to heaven with Him.
- Let us continue to praise God and exalt Him as we are sure of the great things that he is going to do for us.
- Let us continue to do right and abstain from evil trusting that God will deal properly with our enemies.
- Let us continue to evangelize and preach His Word and reaching new people and testifying to them about God who can save their lives as they put their trust on Him.

My Prayer: *Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins, who was buried and rose from the dead on the third day to give me eternal life.*

Let us confess to the Lord our sins and shortcomings.

Let us ask God forgiveness for our lack of trust on God, for our doubts, for our lack of faith and for doing our own while we are in trials.

Lord thank you for delivering me from all the trials and all the enemies that want to destroy my life and your plan for me.

*Lord I commit myself to go and serve you and do the work that you had prepared in advance for me to do. Lord I trust that you are watching closely upon the affairs of my life, and that you are going to save me as you saved David from the fieriest person among his enemies. Lord be exalted upon all the nations and I will sing and confess thy name to the Gentiles. **Be thou exalted, O God, above the heavens: let thy glory be above all the earth.***

Lord I pray that you will give me more of the Holy Spirit fruit to have love, joy, peace, patient, self-control, gentleness, kindness, generosity and perseverance. Lord helps me to be a good example to others to follow in their lives and guide me to bring others into your Kingdom.

Lord we thank you for the encouraging and the assuring Word that we had received from you. Lord increase the faith of my Brothers and Sisters who set their lives to follow your ways and your commands in their lives. Lord fills them with the Holy Spirit to go on in the direction that you are sending them to fulfill your plan in their lives and to reach others with the Gospel of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Lord enables us as a church to stand firm against all the trials and the enemies and the people that Devil is trying to use against us. Lord help us to reach new areas and new people with the Gospel of Jesus. Lord helps us to plant new Bible studies and new congregations. Lord we cry out to you to go before us and fight our battles. Lord we have no one but you. Lord deal with those who block us and hinder us as a church to go on and do the work of yours. Lord bless us, enlarge our territory, let you hand be with us and free us from harm so that we will not feel pain. May the grace of the Lord Jesus and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all in Jesus name, Amen.

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