

BETRAYAL and ATTACK ~ Psalm 54

→Scripture Reading Psalm 54:1-7

INTRODUCTION

→MAP

Psalm 54 For the director of music. With stringed instruments. A maskil of David. When the **Ziphites** had gone to Saul and said, Is not David Hiding among us?

→MAP

1 Samuel 23:14,19-20 (NLT) David now stayed in the strongholds of the wilderness and in the hill country of Ziph. Saul hunted him day after day, but God didn't let Saul find him.

→Pictures

...¹⁹ But now the men of Ziph went to Saul in Gibeah and betrayed David to him. "We know where David is hiding," they said. "He is in the strongholds of Horesh on the hill of Hakilah, which is in the southern part of Jeshimon."²⁰ Come down whenever you're ready, O king, and we will catch him and hand him over to you!"

SAVE Me by Your POWER ~ Psalm 54:1-3

¹ Save me, O God, by Your name; vindicate me by Your might.

By Your NAME, by Your great and glorious nature. Employ all Your attributes FOR me. Let every one of the perfections which are blended in Your divine NAME work on my behalf. Spurgeon

² Hear my prayer, O God; listen to the words of my mouth. ³ Strangers are attacking me; ruthless men seek my life - men without regard for God.

IMPLICATIONS

→Anguished call for Vindication

¹ God, save me by Your name, and VINDICATE me by Your might. (HCS)

Vindicate- to be FREE from Accusation or Blame

¹ Come with great power, O God, and rescue me! Defend me with Your might. (NLT)

God HELPS and SUSTAINS Me ~ Psalm 54:4-7

⁴ Surely God is my help; the Lord is the one who sustains me. ⁵ Let evil recoil on those who slander me; in your faithfulness destroy them.

⁴ God is my helper; the Lord is the sustainer of my life. ⁵ He WILL repay my adversaries for their EVIL. Because of Your faithfulness, ANNIHILATE them. (HCS)

This imprecation is NOT vindictive it an expression of trust in God's Divine JUSTICE.
Evil must be repaid. Expositor

⁶ I will sacrifice a freewill offering to You; I will praise Your name, O LORD, for it is GOOD. ⁷ For He has delivered me from all my troubles, and my eyes have looked in triumph on my foes.

IMPLICATIONS

→God is MY HELP

⁴ God is my helper; the Lord is the sustainer of my life. (HCS)

Prayer for Deliverance

Description of Danger

GOD IS MY HELPER 

Description of Solution

Thanksgiving for Deliverance

1 Samuel 23:15-17 (NLT) One day near Horesh, David received the news that Saul was on the way to Ziph to search for him and kill him. ¹⁶ Jonathan went to find David and encouraged him to stay strong in his faith in God. ¹⁷ Don't be afraid, Jonathan reassured him. My father will never find you...

→God's Justice and Vengeance are PERFECT

⁵ May those who wait to AMBUSH me BE REPAID for their evil. As a demonstration of your faithfulness, DESTROY them. (NET)

Imprecatory Psalms were NOT written out of vindictiveness or a need for personal vengeance. They are prayers that keep God's justice, sovereignty, and protection in mind. gotquestions.org

The Truth is that **Imprecatory** Psalms communicate a DEEP yearning for justice, written from the point of view of those who had been severely oppressed and deeply hurt. gotquestions.org

Romans 12:19, 21 (NIV) Do NOT take revenge, my friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: It is MINE to avenge; I WILL repay, says the Lord....

²¹ Do NOT be **overcome by evil**, but **overcome evil WITH** good.

TAKE AWAY ??

→Betrayal ALWAYS Hurts

³ For foreigners attack me; ruthless men, who do not respect God, seek my life. (NET)

⁴ But God is MY helper. The Lord keeps me ALIVE. (NLT)

1 Samuel 23:26-28 (NLT) Saul and David were now on opposite sides of a mountain. Just as Saul and his men began to close in on David and his men, ²⁷ an urgent message reached Saul that the Philistines were raiding Israel again. ²⁸ So Saul quit chasing David and returned to fight the Philistines...

Through the crucible of LAMENT, God transforms our pain into intimacy with Him, not by erasing it, or explaining it away, but by FULLY acknowledging its horror. Vroegop