

Psalm 5 ¹

"A Plea For Help Because of Enemies"

For the choir director; for flute accompaniment. A Psalm of David.

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A1 DAVID'S PLAINTIVE PLEA TO YAHWEH FOR HELP 5:1-3

B1 The Content of His Plea: Yahweh, Please Listen! 5:1-2

- C1 Request to Yahweh: *{1}* Give ear to my words, O LORD,
- C2 Request: Consider my groaning.
- C3 Request to His King-and-Elohim: *{2}* Heed the sound of my cry for help, my King and my God,
- C4 Reason: For to You I pray.

B2 The Time He Will Offer His Prayer: In the Morning ² 5:3

- C1 His Confidence in Yahweh's Attention: *{3}* In the morning, O LORD, You will hear my voice;
- C2 His Eagerness to Offer His Prayer: In the morning I will order *my prayer* to You and *eagerly* watch.

¹ Psalm 5. An individual lament *psalm* (*Ryrie Study Bible*).

² 5:3 - morning: It appears that David, at nighttime, is composing his musical prayer to God, perhaps while attempting to sleep (5:1-2). He resolves that he will offer it to God in the morning (5:3). He consoles himself with God's abhorrence of evil (5:4) and His relentless destruction of evil people (5:5-6). He resolves that (in the morning) He will go to Yahweh's house and worship Him (5:7). Then he proceeds to rehearse the prayer that he will then pray in the temple in the morning: He asks for guidance (5:8) because of his opponents, previously described (5:4-6) and further described (5:9); he asks for God to judge his opponents in their rebellion (5:10). Then he asks for God to bless and protect the righteous (5:11), for Yahweh alone is the source of blessing and protection (5:12).

NIV translates the Qal imperfect in 5:3, "In the morning, O Lord, **you hear** my voice; in the morning **I lay** my requests before you," etc. In this scenario, David prays, vss. 1-6, in the morning, resolving (v. 7) to go to Yahweh's house. He rehearses, beginning in v. 8, that which he will ask of Yahweh once he arrives in the tabernacle.

A2 DAVID'S DESCRIPTION OF YAHWEH'S ABHORRENCE OF EVIL 5:4-6

B1 His Disassociation with Evil 5:4

C1 His Displeasure at Wickedness: *{4}* For You are not a God who takes pleasure in wickedness;

C2 His Total Disassociation from Evil: No evil dwells with You.

B2 His Destruction of Evil People 5:5-6

C1 His Repudiation of the Boastful: *{5}* The boastful shall not stand before Your eyes;

C2 His Hatred of Evildoers: You hate all who do iniquity.

C3 His Destruction of Liars: *{6}* You destroy those who speak falsehood;

C4 His Abhorrence of Murderers and Liars: The LORD abhors the man of bloodshed and deceit.

A3 DAVID'S DETERMINATION TO WORSHIP YAHWEH IN HIS HOUSE 5:7

B1 His Assurance of Entrance into Yahweh's House Based on Yahweh's Loyal Love: *{7}* But as for me, by Your abundant lovingkindness I will enter Your house,

B2 His Anticipation of Reverential Worship: At Your holy temple I will bow in reverence for You.

A4 DAVID'S PRAYER FOR YAHWEH TO DEFEAT HIS FOES AND BLESS THE RIGHTEOUS 5:8-12

B1 His Prayer for the Defeat of His Foes 5:8-10

C1 His Prayer to Yahweh for Guidance Because of His Foes 5:8

D1 For righteous guidance; *{8}* O LORD, lead me in Your righteousness because of my foes;³

D2 For clear revelation: Make Your way straight before me.

³ 5:8 - my foes: David understood that his foes were Yahweh's foes because they rebelled against Him (5:10).

- C2 His Description of His Foes' Lack of Integrity 5:9
 - D1 Their unreliable speech: {9} There is nothing reliable in what they say;
 - D2 Their destructive core: Their inward part is destruction *itself*.
 - D3 Their defiling speech: Their throat is an open grave; ⁴
 - D4 Their manipulative speech: They flatter with their tongue.

C3 His Plea for Elohim to Hold His Foes Accountable 5:10

- D1 His pleas for judgment upon them
 - E1 For a guilty verdict: {10} Hold them guilty, O God;
 - E2 For poetic justice: By their own devices let them fall!
 - E3 On multiple counts: In the multitude of their transgressions thrust them out,
- D2 His reason for judgment upon them: For they are rebellious against You.

B2 His Prayer for Blessing for the Righteous 5:11-12

- C1 His prayer for the well-being of those take refuge in Yahweh and exult in Him 5:11
 - D1 For their joy
 - E1 Gladness: {11} But let all who take refuge in You be glad,
 - E2 Joyful song: Let them ever sing for joy;
 - D2 For their protection: And may You shelter them,
 - D3 For their exultation in Yahweh's name: That those who love Your name may exult in You.

⁴ 5:9 - Their throat is an open grave, signifying defilement and revulsion: Quoted in Rom. 3:13. The latter part of Ps. 5:9, "they flatter with their tongue," appears to be paraphrased in Rom. 3:13, "with their tongues they keep deceiving."

C2 His acknowledgment that Yahweh alone is the source of blessing and grace for the righteous 5:12

D1 Yahweh's blessing; {12} For it is You who blesses the righteous man, O LORD,

D2 Yahweh's acceptance: You surround him with favor as with a shield.

Expanded Analysis of Psalm 5

Prepared by James T. Bartsch

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WordExplain.com

P. O. Box 527

Cottonwood Falls, Kansas 66845

Email Contact: jbartsch@wordexplain.com

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