

## Psalm 71

### A Plea for Protection and a Vow of Praise

Scripture taken from the *NEW AMERICAN STANDARD BIBLE*®,  
Copyright © 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1995 by the Lockman  
Foundation. Used by permission. ([www.Lockman.org](http://www.Lockman.org)).

#### A1 THE PSALMIST'S PLEA FOR HELP 71:1-13

##### B1 The Psalmist's Plea That Yahweh Might Be His Refuge, Saving Him from the Wicked 71:1-4

###### C1 His Refuge and Request 71:1

D1 His declaration of refuge in Yahweh: *{1}* In You, O LORD, I have taken refuge;

D2 His request for exoneration: Let me never be ashamed.

###### C2 His Plea for Responsive Deliverance 71:2

D1 *{2}* In Your righteousness deliver me and rescue me;

D2 Incline Your ear to me and save me.

###### C3 His Request and Confidence 71:3

D1 His request that Yahweh might be an accessible safe-house: *{3}* Be to me a rock of habitation to which I may continually come;

D2 His confidence in Yahweh as rock and fortress

E1 You have given commandment to save me,

E2 For You are my rock and my fortress.

###### C4 His Cry to Elohim for Rescue from the Wicked 71:4

D1 *{4}* Rescue me, O my God, out of the hand of the wicked,

D2 Out of the grasp of the wrongdoer and ruthless man,

##### B2 The Psalmist's Confidence in Adonai Yahweh 71:5-8

###### C1 His Early Dependence on Adonai Yahweh 71:5

D1 His hope: *{5}* For You are my hope; O Lord GOD,

D2 His early confidence: *You are my confidence from my youth.*

- C2 His Praise of God's Sustenance of Him from Birth 71:6
  - D1 God's early sustenance
    - E1 {6} By You I have been sustained from *my* birth;
    - E2 You are He who took me from my mother's womb;
  - D2 The Psalmist's praise: My praise is continually of You.
- C3 Others' notice of his protection from God: {7} I have become a marvel to many, For You are my strong refuge. 71:7
- C4 His Continual Praise: {8} My mouth is filled with Your praise And with Your glory all day long. 71:8

**B3 The Psalmist's Desperate Prayer to Elohim for Preservation from His Enemies 71:9-13**

- C1 That God Might Not Forsake Him 71:9
  - D1 In his old age: {9} Do not cast me off in the time of old age;
  - D2 When his strength fails: Do not forsake me when my strength fails.
- C2 The Innuendo of His Enemies 71:10-11
  - D1 Their conspiracy 71:10
    - E1 {10} For my enemies have spoken against me;
    - E2 And those who watch for my life have consulted together,
  - D2 Their speech 71:11
    - E1 {11} Saying, "God has forsaken him;
    - E2 Pursue and seize him, for there is no one to deliver."
- C3 His Desperate Plea to Elohim 71:12-13
  - D1 For proximate aid 71:12
    - E1 {12} O God, do not be far from me;
    - E2 O my God, hasten to my help!

D2 For reproach of his plotting adversaries 71:13

E1 {13} Let those who are adversaries of my soul be ashamed  
*and* consumed;

E2 Let them be covered with reproach and dishonor, who seek  
to injure me.

## A2 THE PSALMIST'S VOW OF PRAISE 71:14-24

### B1 Because of the Righteous Salvation and Mighty Deeds of Adonai Yahweh 71:14-16

C1 His Continual Hope and Praise 71:14

D1 His continual hope: {14} But as for me, I will hope continually,

D2 His recurring praise: And will praise You yet more and more.

C2 His Perpetual Verbalization of God's Righteous Salvation 71:15

D1 His ceaseless praise: {15} My mouth shall tell

E1 of Your righteousness

E2 *And* of Your salvation all day long;

D2 Their inscrutable number: For I do not know the sum *of them*.

C3 His Lauding of the Mighty Deeds of Adonai Yahweh Done in  
Righteousness 71:16

D1 {16} I will come with the mighty deeds of the Lord GOD;

D2 I will make mention of Your righteousness, Yours alone.

### B2 To Elohim All His Life 71:17-21

C1 His Practice of Declaring Elohim's Deeds From His Youth to the Present  
71:17

D1 {17} O God, You have taught me from my youth,

D2 And I still declare Your wondrous deeds.

C2 His Request, Even When Old, to Declare Elohim's Strength to All in the  
Future 71:18

D1 His plea that Elohim might not forsake him in his old age: {18}  
And even when *I am* old and gray, O God, do not forsake me,  
71:18a

D2 Enabling him to praise Elohim's strength and power to succeeding generations 71:18b

E1 Until I declare Your strength to *this* generation,

E2 Your power to all who are to come.

C3 His Declaration of the Superlativeness of Elohim's Righteous Deeds 71:19

D1 The sublime elevation of Elohim's righteousness: {19} For Your righteousness, O God, *reaches* to the heavens,

D2 Elohim's unequalled acts: You who have done great things; O God, who is like You?

C4 His Confidence in God's Reviving Power 71:20-21

D1 His confidence in God's ability to resuscitate him 71:20

E1 {20} You who have shown me many troubles and distresses

E2 Will revive me again,

E3 And will bring me up again from the depths of the earth.

D2 His prayer that God will expand and comfort him: {21} May You increase my greatness And turn *to* comfort me. 71:21

**B3 With Varied Modes of Expression 71:22-24**

C1 With Musical Accompaniment 71:22

D1 Praising with a harp Elohim's truth: {22} I will also praise You with a harp, *Even* Your truth, O my God;

D2 Singing praise with the lyre to the Holy One of Israel: To You I will sing praises with the lyre, O Holy One of Israel.

C2 With His Lips and His Soul 71:23

D1 With shouts of joy: {23} My lips will shout for joy when I sing praises to You;

D2 From his redeemed soul: And my soul, which You have redeemed.

C3 With Incessant Tongue 71:24

D1 Declaring God's righteousness: {24} My tongue also will utter Your righteousness all day long;

D2 Because of God's humiliation of his adversaries: For they are ashamed, for they are humiliated who seek my hurt.

**EXPANDED ANALYSIS OF PSALM 71**

Prepared by James T. Bartsch

October, 2010. Updated October, 2013

Published Online by [WordExplain.com](http://WordExplain.com)

Email Contact: [jbartsch@wordexplain.com](mailto:jbartsch@wordexplain.com)

Scripture taken from the *NEW AMERICAN STANDARD BIBLE*®,  
Copyright © 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1995 by the Lockman Foundation.  
Used by permission. ([www.Lockman.org](http://www.Lockman.org))