

Psalm 70

Author: David/Anonymous

Though most believe David is the author of this Psalm, we can't say with certainty who penned these words. However, not knowing the author or its origin doesn't make the message any less important or applicable. The psalmist is in danger, in a place all too familiar here in the Psalms. But sometimes, a message bears repeating.

Read and compare Psalm 40 to Psalm 70.

How are these Psalms similar?

What verse, in Psalm 70, is not in Psalm 40?

What does this tell you about the psalmist's state of mind?

Urgency In The Ask

I love when the Bible shows the humanity of our heroes. Too often, we idolize the people in the Bible, forgetting they were real people with real problems and real emotions. David is in a bad situation. It appears that the circumstances, which compelled him to write Psalm 40, have recurred, or possibly new trouble has developed.

Can you relate? My mind immediately pressed replay to my own Psalm 40/Psalm 70 moments. When my tough circumstances recurred, I did not mince words with the Lord. Like David, I begged God to rush to my rescue.

As one would assume, the word *haste* (in the Hebrew *chuwsh* -koosh), means to hurry or to act quickly. In addition, it also means to hurry with enjoyment and excitement. David is pleading for a quick deliverance and desires for God to come—with excitement!

We often ask God to dash to deliver us, to hasten to help us in hard times, or to rush to answer a request. This begs me to ask, "How often do we dash, hasten, and rush—to obey God's ways and instructions for our life?"

Read Psalm 119:60.

What commitment does the psalmist make to God?

Heart Check

Am I asking God to do something for me that I am not willing to do for Him? Am willing to make a commitment to hasten—with enjoyment and excitement—to obey Him?

I was a Christian for thirty-three years before I truly started seeking God. Times were tough, and I had nowhere else to turn, so I finally turned to God. Unsure of what I was doing and wondering if I could even understand God or His ways, I begin to spend time with Him every morning, reading through the Psalms in my green Living Bible.

Earnest In The Ask

The psalmist asks God to hurry to help him and then he prays for two groups of people—those who want to harm him and those who seek God. It is obvious why the psalmist would pray for punishment to come to his enemies, but it is less obvious why he prays for those who seek God.

But think of a harmful or hurtful situation you have faced. For what, and for whom, did you pray?

I noticed that the psalmist did not ask God to provide an opportunity for him to exact revenge. Nor did his prayer give any indication that he desired to be part of his enemy's downfall. How unhuman-like!

When hurtful situations have personally surrounded me, my flesh screams, "Revenge!" Unlike David, there is a part of me that longs to sit on the sidelines and watch God take care of business. Very human-like, indeed. Yet the psalmist had the right perspective toward those who sought to harm him.

Read Romans 12:19.

What did David know?

Is difficult for you to wait on God's wrath?

There is no other reason to explain his prayer but that David wanted other people to know God. How fascinating that, while in moments of personal crisis, David earnestly prays for those who seek God. Again, how unhuman-like.

Read Psalm 70:4.

What is David desire for those who seek God? _____

The psalmist prayed with earnest urgency. May we be challenged—to be as concerned for others to seek God as we are about our enemies being punished.