

Lesson (8/2): Psalm 17:1–7, 15: The God Who Hears the Righteous

Scripture Focus:

Psalm 17 is one of David's prayers. Unlike many psalms that focus primarily on praise or thanksgiving, this is a heartfelt plea for God's protection. Although we do not know the exact historical setting, David was frequently surrounded by enemies throughout his life:

- Saul's pursuit
- Military conflicts
- Betrayals by friends
- Political opposition
- Even rebellion within his own family

Rather than taking vengeance into his own hands, David brings his concerns before God. The psalm reminds us that faith does not eliminate hardship. Instead, faith teaches us where to take our hardships.

Read the verse(s) aloud

Memorable quotes/notes:

Historic/Linguistic Context:

In the ancient Near East, kings often served as judges.

People would present their case before the king and ask for justice.

David uses courtroom language:

- Hear my plea
- Listen to my cry
- Let my vindication come from You

He is asking God—the perfect Judge—to hear his case.

Unlike human judges, God cannot be bribed, deceived, or manipulated.

Discussion Questions

1. What makes it difficult to trust God with injustice?
2. How does Jesus give us confidence to approach God in prayer?
3. In what ways does our culture encourage us to seek satisfaction somewhere other than God?
4. Where have you seen God's faithfulness in answering prayer?
5. What is one step you can take this week to seek God's face more intentionally?

CLOSING PRAYER