

I Want To Please God!

Psalm 64

Warren W. Wiersbe, *Be Worshipful*, 1st ed., *Be Commentary Series* (Colorado Springs, CO: Cook Communications Ministries, 2004), 215.



Leap
of FAITH
Hebrews 11:1



“The first quality for a commander-in-chief is a cool head to receive a correct impression of things,” said Napoleon I. “He should not allow himself to be confused by either good or bad news.”

David was probably serving in Saul’s court when he wrote this psalm (*1 Sam. 18–20*).

He knew that Saul was his enemy and wanted to kill him and that most of Saul’s officers were in a conspiracy against him.



Though he was the anointed king, David had no authority to oppose Saul, and eventually he had to flee and hide in the wilderness.

People give us all kinds of trouble, but our battle is not against flesh and blood, but against Satan and his hosts (*Eph. 6:10ff*). This psalm instructs us what to do in the battles of life.



Seek the Lord's Protection

(vv. 1–2)

Psalm 64:1–2 (NKJV)

1 Hear my voice, O God, in my meditation;
Preserve my life from fear of the enemy.

2 Hide me from the secret plots of the
wicked, From the rebellion of the workers of
iniquity,

Frequently David addressed the Lord by saying, “Hear my voice” or “Hear me when I call,” not because God wasn’t paying attention but because David was in serious trouble.

Psalm 4:1 (NKJV)

Hear me when I call, O God of my righteousness! You have relieved me in my distress; Have mercy on me, and hear my prayer.

Psalm 27:7 (NKJV)

Hear, O LORD, when I cry with my voice!
Have mercy also upon me, and answer me.

Psalm 140:6 (NKJV)

I said to the LORD: “You are my God; Hear
the voice of my supplications, O LORD.

The word translated “prayer or meditation” *(v. 1, kjv and nkjv)* also means “complaint” or “trouble”.

Psalm 142:1–3 (NKJV)

1 I cry out to the LORD with my voice; With my voice to the LORD I make my supplication.

2 I pour out my complaint before Him; I declare before Him my trouble.

3 When my spirit was overwhelmed within me, Then You knew my path. In the way in which I walk They have secretly set a snare for me.

David didn't ask God to change the circumstances but to fortify his own heart and deliver him from fear.

The fear of the Lord mobilizes us, but the fear of man paralyzes us.

As a young man, loved by the people but envied and hated by the king, David faced two problems:

- The insurrection, secret conspiracy of Saul, his officers, and the open “wickedness” of those who wanted to please Saul by oppressing David.



Psalm 2:1–2 (NKJV)

1 Why do the nations rage, And the people plot a vain thing?

2 The kings of the earth set themselves, And the rulers take counsel together, Against the LORD and against His Anointed, saying,

Psalm 31:13–14 (NKJV)

13 For I hear the slander of many; Fear is on every side; While they take counsel together against me, They scheme to take away my life.

14 But as for me, I trust in You, O LORD; I say, “You are my God.”



Lies about David were being passed from person to person and David knew he wasn't safe in Saul's court.

Both his life and his reputation were being attacked, and only the Lord could rescue him.



Ask For The Lord's Wisdom

(vv. 3–6)

Psalm 64:3–6 (NKJV)

3 Who sharpen their tongue like a sword,
And bend their bows to shoot their arrows—
bitter words,

4 That they may shoot in secret at the
blameless; Suddenly they shoot at him and
do not fear.

5 They encourage themselves in an evil
matter; They talk of laying snares secretly;
They say, “Who will see them?”

6 They devise iniquities: “We have perfected
a shrewd scheme.” Both the inward thought
and the heart of man are deep.



David knew exactly what the enemy was saying and doing, and we need to know the strategy of Satan when he attacks us *(2 Cor. 2:11)*.

2 Corinthians 2:10–11 (NKJV)

10 Now whom you forgive anything, I also forgive. For if indeed I have forgiven anything, I have forgiven that one for your sakes in the presence of Christ,

11 **lest Satan should take advantage of us; for we are not ignorant of his devices.**

As a lion, he comes to devour *(1 Peter 5:8)*,
as a serpent, he comes to deceive *(2 Cor. 11:1–4)*,
and one of his chief weapons is accusation *(Rev. 12:10; Zech. 3)*.

David compared his enemies' tongues to swords (*55:21; 57:4; 59:7*) and their words to poisoned arrows (*57:4; Prov. 25:18; 26:18–19; Jer. 9:8*).

Psalm 55:21 (NKJV)

The words of his mouth were smoother than butter, But war was in his heart; His words were softer than oil, Yet they were drawn swords.

Jeremiah 9:8 (NKJV)

Their tongue is an arrow shot out; It speaks deceit; One speaks peaceably to his neighbor with his mouth, But in his heart he lies in wait.



They also set traps for him, confident that nobody knew what they were doing, not even the Lord.

Psalm 10:11 (NKJV)

He has said in his heart, “God has forgotten; He hides His face; He will never see.”

The Lord Will Frustrate The Enemy!

For some of Saul's traps and how the Lord frustrated them, see 1 Sam. 18–19.

1 Samuel 18:11–12 (NKJV)

11 And Saul cast the spear, for he said, “I will pin David to the wall!” But David escaped his presence twice.

12 Now Saul was afraid of David, because the LORD was with him, but had departed from Saul.



The human heart is “deep” and that there are always new dangers to avoid, so he constantly sought the Lord’s wisdom as he made decisions.

Jeremiah 17:9 (NKJV)

“The heart is deceitful above all things, And desperately wicked; Who can know it?”

Seek the Lord in what to do in your tough situations!

James 1:5 (NKJV)

If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.

Trust The Lord For Victory

(vv. 7–8)

Psalm 64:7–8 (NKJV)

7 But God shall shoot at them with an arrow; Suddenly they shall be wounded.

8 So He will make them stumble over their own tongue; All who see them shall flee away.

By depending on the Lord and obeying His directions, David was confident that God would defeat his enemies.

“Be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might” *(Eph. 6:10)*.

David’s enemies shot arrows at him suddenly *(vv. 3–4)*, so the Lord suddenly shot arrows at them *(v. 7)*.



Hebrews 10:30–31 (NKJV)

30 For we know Him who said, “Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,” says the Lord. And again, “The LORD will judge His people.”

31 It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

They tried to trip him and trap him (v. 5), so the Lord caused David's enemies to stumble and fall (v. 8, amp).

Psalm 27:1–2 (NKJV)

1 The LORD is my light and my salvation;
Whom shall I fear? The LORD is the
strength of my life; Of whom shall I be
afraid?

2 When the wicked came against me To eat
up my flesh, My enemies and foes, They
stumbled and fell.

God would use their own sword-like tongues to fight against them, and they would end up in shame and disgrace (v. 8).

Isaiah 54:15–17 (NKJV)

15 Indeed they shall surely assemble, but not because of Me. Whoever assembles against you shall fall for your sake.

16 “Behold, I have created the blacksmith Who blows the coals in the fire, Who brings forth an instrument for his work; And I have created the spoiler to destroy.

17 No weapon formed against you shall prosper, And every tongue which rises against you in judgment You shall condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, And their righteousness is from Me,” Says the LORD.

The very weapons that the enemy uses against us, the Lord uses to defeat them.



Give Glory To The Lord

(vv. 9–10)

Psalm 64:9–10 (NKJV)

9 All men shall fear, And shall declare the work of God; For they shall wisely consider His doing.

10 The righteous shall be glad in the LORD, and trust in Him. And all the upright in heart shall glory.

As the nation watched the defeat of David's enemies and his exaltation as king, it all brought great glory to the Lord. Some people stood and shook their heads in disbelief (v. 8a).

Dr. Bob Cook used to say, "If you can explain what's going on, the Lord didn't do it." Faith expects to see God do the impossible!

The nation had a new fear of the Lord as they saw sin judged and their godly king vindicated.



Psalm 59:9–13 (NKJV)

9 I will wait for You, O You his Strength; For God is my defense.

10 My God of mercy shall come to meet me; God shall let me see my desire on my enemies.

11 Do not slay them, lest my people forget; Scatter them by Your power, And bring them down, O Lord our shield.

12 For the sin of their mouth and the words of their lips, Let them even be taken in their pride, And for the cursing and lying which they speak.

13 Consume them in wrath, consume them, That they may not be; And let them know that God rules in Jacob To the ends of the earth.
Selah



The people praised the Lord for what He had done, and as they worshiped, they meditated on His character and His purposes.

It isn't enough to know the works of the Lord; we must also seek to understand His way and learn how to please Him.

Psalm 103:6–7 (NKJV)

6 The LORD executes righteousness And justice for all who are oppressed.

7 He made known His ways to Moses, His acts to the children of Israel.



David's great concern was that the Lord be glorified, and that was why God blessed Him. Rejoice!

