# **Psalm Hymns & Devotionals**

for Psalms 26 - 50 with scripture and links to recordings

**Ken Bible** 

**PsalmHymns.com** 

**LNWhymns.com** 

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(NASB)

1 Vindicate me, Lord, for I have walked in my integrity,
And I have trusted in the Lord without wavering.
2 Examine me, Lord, and put me to the test;
Refine my mind and my heart.
3 For Your goodness is before my eyes,
And I have walked in Your truth.
4 I do not sit with deceitful people,
Nor will I go with pretenders.
5 I hate the assembly of evildoers,
And I will not sit with the wicked.
6 I will wash my hands in innocence,
And I will go around Your altar, Lord,
7 That I may proclaim with the voice of thanksgiving
And declare all Your wonders.

8 Lord, I love the dwelling of Your house,
And the place where Your glory remains.
9 Do not take my soul away along with sinners,
Nor my life with men of bloodshed,
10 In whose hands is a wicked scheme,
And whose right hand is full of bribes.
11 But as for me, I will walk in my integrity;
Redeem me, and be gracious to me.
12 My foot stands on level ground;
In the congregations I will bless the Lord.

#### Reflection on Psalm 26

```
Father, You know my current situation.
      You understand it in a way
      I cannot.
Examine me.
      Test me.
If any of the problem is in me,
      purify me.
In Your mercy,
      refine away anything that is not
             You.
I am opposed and pressured in this evil world, but
      I trust
             You.
      I desire
             You.
      I love
             You.
      I praise
             You!
I am surrounded by those who choose
      evil and
      self,
      lies and
      vanity,
      glory and
      gold.
But Holy Father, I choose
      You.
I choose Your people.
I take my stand with them.
No matter what comes,
      we fix our eyes on You!
      We follow You!
      We trust You!
```

Hymn recording: Psalm 26



WORDS: Ken Bible MUSIC: Ken Bible, inspired by a traditional folk tune PSALM 26 L.M.

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>
> CCLI Song #7112891. For CCLI information call 1-800-234-2446.

(NASB)

1 The Lord is my light and my salvation;

Whom should I fear?

The Lord is the defense of my life;

Whom should I dread?

2 When evildoers came upon me to devour my flesh,

My adversaries and my enemies, they stumbled and fell.

3 If an army encamps against me,

My heart will not fear;

If war arises against me,

In spite of this I am confident.

4 One thing I have asked from the Lord, that I shall seek:

That I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,

To behold the beauty of the Lord

And to meditate in His temple.

5 For on the day of trouble He will conceal me in His tabernacle;

He will hide me in the secret place of His tent;

He will lift me up on a rock.

6 And now my head will be lifted up above my enemies around me,

And I will offer sacrifices in His tent with shouts of joy;

I will sing, yes, I will sing praises to the Lord.

7 Hear, Lord, when I cry with my voice,

And be gracious to me and answer me.

8 When You said, "Seek My face," my heart said to You,

"I shall seek Your face, Lord."

9 Do not hide Your face from me,

Do not turn Your servant away in anger;

You have been my help;

Do not abandon me nor forsake me,

God of my salvation!

10 For my father and my mother have forsaken me,

But the Lord will take me up.

11 Teach me Your way, Lord,

And lead me on a level path

Because of my enemies.

12 Do not turn me over to the desire of my enemies,

For false witnesses have risen against me,

And the violent witness.

13 I certainly believed that I would see the goodness of the Lord In the land of the living.

14 Wait for the Lord;

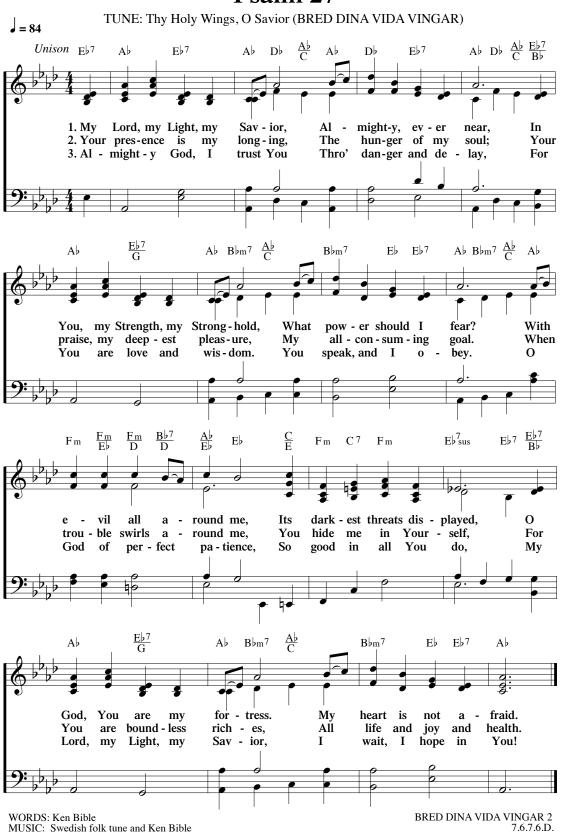
Be strong and let your heart take courage;

Yes, wait for the Lord.

#### **Reflection on Psalm 27**

```
Eternal God, perfect in
      power,
      wisdom, and
      love,
You are
      my light,
      my salvation,
      my defense.
I seek You.
I hide in You.
I praise You.
I pray to You.
You never, ever abandon me.
When the closest human relationships prove inadequate,
      You come even closer.
So, God of wisdom and love,
      teach me Your ways.
Lead me on the right path.
No matter what threats surround me,
Your unfailing goodness is
      my confidence,
      my anchor,
      my joy.
I am strong in You.
I am courageous in You.
I wait and hope in You!
```

Hymn recording: Psalm 27



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(NASB)

1 To You, Lord, I call;

My rock, do not be deaf to me,

For if You are silent to me,

I will become like those who go down to the pit.

2 Hear the sound of my pleadings when I cry to You for help,

When I raise my hands toward Your holy sanctuary.

3 Do not drag me away with the wicked

And with those who practice injustice,

Who speak peace with their neighbors,

While evil is in their hearts.

4 Give back to them according to their work and according to the evil of their practices;

Give back to them according to the work of their hands;

Repay them what is due them.

5 Because they do not regard the works of the Lord

Nor the deeds of His hands,

He will tear them down and not build them up.

6 Blessed be the Lord,

Because He has heard the sound of my pleading.

7 The Lord is my strength and my shield;

My heart trusts in Him, and I am helped;

Therefore my heart triumphs,

And with my song I shall thank Him.

8 The Lord is their strength,

And He is a refuge of salvation to His anointed.

9 Save Your people and bless Your inheritance;

Be their shepherd also, and carry them forever.

#### **Reflection on Psalm 28**

```
Listen, please!
I need You!
I have no hope but You!

I am surrounded by people who are servants of evil without even knowing it.

They deceive, they threaten, they entice.

They do all they can to drag me down to destruction with them.

They see don't see You or know You, so they don't see themselves as they truly are.
```

But Almighty God, I look to You.
You are the truth.
You are my strength,
my joy,
my protection!
I trust in You!

Father, I call to You.

Hymn recording: Psalm 28

TUNE: Let Us with a Gladsome Mind (MONKLAND)



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CCLI Song #7113295. For CCLI information call 1-800-234-2446.

(NASB)

1 Ascribe to the Lord, sons of the mighty,Ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.2 Ascribe to the Lord the glory due His name;Worship the Lord in holy attire.

3 The voice of the Lord is on the waters;
The God of glory thunders,
The Lord is over many waters.
4 The voice of the Lord is powerful,
The voice of the Lord is majestic.
5 The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars;
Yes, the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon in pieces.
6 He makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
And Sirion like a young wild ox.
7 The voice of the Lord divides flames of fire.
8 The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness;
The Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
9 The voice of the Lord makes the deer give birth
And strips the forests bare;
And in His temple everything says, "Glory!"

10 The Lord sat as King at the flood;Yes, the Lord sits as King forever.11 The Lord will give strength to His people;The Lord will bless His people with peace.

#### You Speak

O Living God,

Almighty God,

Transcendent God,

from the silence of Your eternal completeness

You speak.

O Father, Your love never stops speaking.

You spoke this entire world into existence.

And through it, You speak Your presence with us.

You speak Your power,

Your wisdom,

Your boundlessness,

Your faithful care.

By Your speaking

You enfold us in all You are.

But You not only speak TO us, Almighty Father.

You speak THROUGH us.

Listening to Your servants, we hear

Your sovereign voice through

human lips.

You move us,

You enable us,

You inspire us to speak for You.

But Father, You speak

fully and

finally

through Your Son, Jesus Christ.

This human being always speaks with Your voice.

His words are purely Your words.

When He speaks,

all reality bows to His authority.

This Jesus Christ has filled us with

His own Spirit.

Through Him, You speak within our

hearts and

minds.

The same Voice that created the universe is now reverberating throughout our entire beings.

O Living God,
Almighty God,
Transcendent God,
speak freely!.
Speak Your will.
Speak Your love.
Speak Your holy life.
Speak Jesus Christ in me!

Hymn recording: Psalm 29: "Voice of God"

## Voice of God

Genesis 1; Exodus 7:1-2; 1 Kings 19:12; Psalm 29; Matthew 10:20; John 14:24; Hebrews 1:1-3



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MUSIC: Ken Bible, inspired by a Traditional Folk Tune

CCLI Song #7070319. For CCLI information call 1-800-234-2446.

(NASB)

1 I will exalt You, Lord, for You have lifted me up, And have not let my enemies rejoice over me.

2 Lord my God,

I cried to You for help, and You healed me.

3 Lord, You have brought up my soul from Sheol;

You have kept me alive, that I would not go down to the pit.

4 Sing praise to the Lord, you His godly ones,

And praise the mention of His holiness.

5 For His anger is but for a moment,

His favor is for a lifetime;

Weeping may last for the night,

But a shout of joy comes in the morning.

6 Now as for me, I said in my prosperity,

"I will never be moved."

7 Lord, by Your favor You have made my mountain to stand strong;

You hid Your face, I was dismayed.

8 To You, Lord, I called,

And to the Lord I pleaded for compassion:

9 "What gain is there in my blood, if I go down to the pit?

Will the dust praise You? Will it declare Your faithfulness?

10 "Hear, Lord, and be gracious to me;

Lord, be my helper."

11 You have turned my mourning into dancing for me;

You have untied my sackcloth and encircled me with joy,

12 That my soul may sing praise to You and not be silent.

Lord my God, I will give thanks to You forever.

#### **Christ in Psalm 30**

Jesus, You exalted the Father with all Your being!

For when You had made Yourself helpless and defenseless, He rescued You, raised You to life, and exalted You to His right hand.

And, Lord, in all these glorious blessings, I am in You!

Your weeping lasted only for a night, but joy came in the morning.

And what a morning!

You praised Your Father for
His unfailing goodness.

And as You praise Him, my Lord,
I am in You!

You ascended back to Your Father and are now sharing
His joy,
His presence,
His glory forever and ever.
And as You share in Him, Jesus,

as You snare in Him, Jesus I am in You!

Our mourning will soon be turned to dancing, and our rags to robes of unbounded joy.

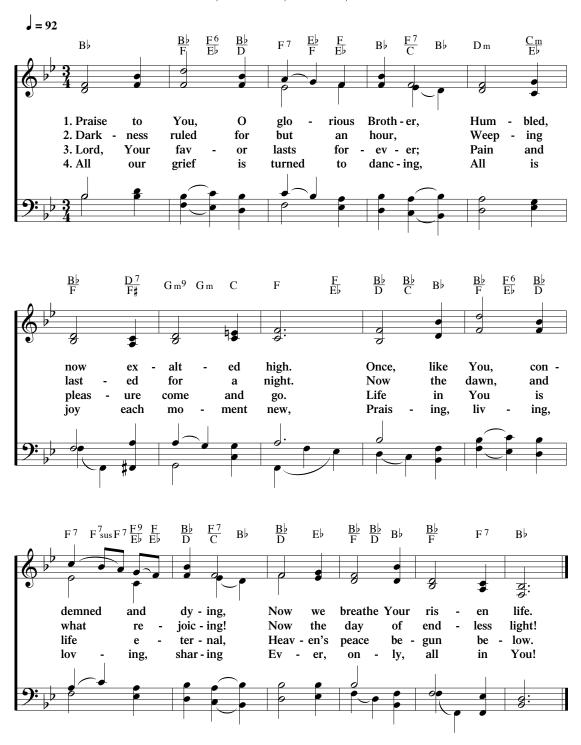
We will praise and worship our glorious Father with hearts and lives and voices.

And best of all, my Savior, I will be fully and forever in You!

Hymn recording: Christ in Psalm 30

## Christ in Psalm 30

Tune: In the Cross of Christ I Glory (RATHBUN) Psalm 30; Luke 22:53; John 17:3; Hebrews 2:11



WORDS: Ken Bible MUSIC: Ithamar Conkey (1815-1867); arr. by Ken Bible RATHBUN 8.7.8.7.

(NASB)

1 In You, Lord, I have taken refuge;

Let me never be put to shame;

In Your righteousness rescue me.

2 Incline Your ear to me, rescue me quickly;

Be a rock of strength for me,

A stronghold to save me.

3 For You are my rock and my fortress;

For the sake of Your name You will lead me and guide me.

4 You will pull me out of the net which they have secretly laid for me,

For You are my strength.

5 Into Your hand I entrust my spirit;

You have redeemed me, Lord, God of truth.

6 I hate those who devote themselves to worthless idols,

But I trust in the Lord.

7 I will rejoice and be glad in Your faithfulness,

Because You have seen my misery;

You have known the troubles of my soul,

8 And You have not handed me over to the enemy;

You have set my feet in a large place.

9 Be gracious to me, Lord, for I am in distress;

My eye is wasted away from grief, my soul and my body too.

10 For my life is spent with sorrow

And my years with sighing;

My strength has failed because of my guilt,

And my body has wasted away.

11 Because of all my adversaries, I have become a disgrace,

Especially to my neighbors,

And an object of dread to my acquaintances;

Those who see me in the street flee from me.

12 I am forgotten like a dead person, out of mind;

I am like a broken vessel.

13 For I have heard the slander of many,

Terror is on every side;

While they took counsel together against me,

They schemed to take away my life.

14 But as for me, I trust in You, Lord,

I say, "You are my God."

15 My times are in Your hand;

Rescue me from the hand of my enemies and from those who persecute me.

16 Make Your face shine upon Your servant;

Save me in Your faithfulness.

17 Let me not be put to shame, Lord, for I call upon You;

Let the wicked be put to shame, let them be silent in Sheol.

18 Let the lying lips be speechless,

Which speak arrogantly against the righteous

With pride and contempt.

19 How great is Your goodness,

Which You have stored up for those who fear You,

Which You have performed for those who take refuge in You,

Before the sons of mankind!

20 You hide them in the secret place of Your presence from the conspiracies of mankind;

You keep them secretly in a shelter from the strife of tongues.

21 Blessed be the Lord,

For He has shown His marvelous faithfulness to me in a besieged city.

22 As for me, I said in my alarm,

"I am cut off from Your eyes";

Nevertheless You heard the sound of my pleadings

When I called to You for help.

23 Love the Lord, all His godly ones!

The Lord watches over the faithful

But fully repays the one who acts arrogantly.

24 Be strong and let your heart take courage,

All you who wait for the Lord.

#### **Reflection on Psalm 31**

Jesus commanded us to deny ourselves, take up our crosses, and follow Him.

So here, as I am crucified with Christ, I pray:

Father, into Your hands I commit my Spirit. (Luke 23:46, NASB; cf Psalm 31:5)

Even when it seems that I am in the grip of trouble,

my Father,

I am still in Your grip.

In sickness, injustice, grief, and loss,

You are my God.

My times are in Your hand. (Psalm 31:14-15, NASB)

It is written of Christ that

being reviled, He did not revile in return; while suffering, He uttered no threats, but kept entrusting Himself to Him who judges righteously. (1 Peter 2:23, NASB)

Father, I do the same.

You are good and right, and

everything You do is good and right.

I entrust myself completely to You.

How great is Your goodness,

even in the worst of circumstances!

Even when I am

weak and

completely helpless,

I am strong in You,

I am secure in You.

My life is hidden with Christ in You. (Colossians 3:3, NASB)

Hymn recording: Psalm 31

TUNE: Faith of Our Fathers (ST. CATHERINE) Luke 23:46; Colossians 3:3; 1 Peter 2:23



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(NASB)

1 How blessed is he whose wrongdoing is forgiven,

Whose sin is covered!

2 How blessed is a person whose guilt the Lord does not take into account,

And in whose spirit there is no deceit!

3 When I kept silent about my sin, my body wasted away

Through my groaning all day long.

4 For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me;

My vitality failed as with the dry heat of summer. Selah

5 I acknowledged my sin to You,

And I did not hide my quilt;

I said, "I will confess my wrongdoings to the Lord";

And You forgave the guilt of my sin. Selah

6 Therefore, let everyone who is godly pray to You in a time when You may be found;

Certainly in a flood of great waters, they will not reach him.

7 You are my hiding place; You keep me from trouble;

You surround me with songs of deliverance. Selah

8 I will instruct you and teach you in the way which you should go;

I will advise you with My eye upon you.

9 Do not be like the horse or like the mule, which have no understanding,

Whose trappings include bit and bridle to hold them in check,

Otherwise they will not come near to you.

10 The sorrows of the wicked are many,

But the one who trusts in the Lord, goodness will surround him.

11 Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, you righteous ones;

And shout for joy, all you who are upright in heart.

#### **Reflection on Psalm 32**

```
Father, what a
      wonderful.
      wonderful,
      wonderful gift
is
      forgiveness!
My heart was wrong.
My life was wrong.
      I was deeply wrong.
I tried to rationalize it.
I tried to shift the blame onto
      my circumstances or
      the way I was raised.
I tried to make up for my guilt by being
      extra nice.
And I tried to simply ignore it.
But nothing lifted the darkness.
Nothing made me clean.
Nothing changed
      me.
But when I prayed to You and
      asked You to forgive me for
      all the wrong I had
             been and
             done,
You made me clean.
You made me new.
I was looking into Your face,
      the holy and righteous God,
while You were looking straight into my eyes.
And You were smiling!
You LOVED me!
I knew it!
You are still smiling.
When I fail,
      You still forgive me,
       as gladly and completely as You did
```

that first time.

But more than that,

when I simply trust You

need by need,

You deliver me,

not just from the guilt of sin,

but from the grip of sin.

You enable me to be

more than I could ever be on my own.

You work within me both

to want the right thing and

to do the right thing (Philippians 2:13).

When I remember to

ask You and

trust You,

You bring

Your rightness and

Your goodness

into my heart and

my life.

What a miracle!

You

in

me!

How amazing!

Hymn recording: Psalm 32



WORDS: Ken Bible MUSIC: Traditional Folk Tune and Ken Bible YOUNG BEICHAN 2 9.8.9.8.

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(NASB)

1 Sing for joy in the Lord, you righteous ones;

Praise is becoming to the upright.

2 Give thanks to the Lord with the lyre;

Sing praises to Him with a harp of ten strings.

3 Sing to Him a new song;

Play skillfully with a shout of joy.

4 For the word of the Lord is right,

And all His work is done in faithfulness.

5 He loves righteousness and justice;

The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.

6 By the word of the Lord the heavens were made,

And by the breath of His mouth all their lights.

7 He gathers the waters of the sea together as a heap;

He puts the depths in storehouses.

8 Let all the earth fear the Lord;

Let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him.

9 For He spoke, and it was done;

He commanded, and it stood firm.

10 The Lord nullifies the plan of nations;

He frustrates the plans of peoples.

11 The plan of the Lord stands forever,

The plans of His heart from generation to generation.

12 Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord,

The people He has chosen for His own inheritance.

13 The Lord looks from heaven;

He sees all the sons of mankind;

14 From His dwelling place He looks out

On all the inhabitants of the earth,

15 He who fashions the hearts of them all.

He who understands all their works.

16 The king is not saved by a mighty army;

A warrior is not rescued by great strength.

17 A horse is a false hope for victory;

Nor does it rescue anyone by its great strength.

18 Behold, the eye of the Lord is on those who fear Him,

On those who wait for His faithfulness.

19 To rescue their soul from death

And to keep them alive in famine.
20 Our soul waits for the Lord;
He is our help and our shield.
21 For our heart rejoices in Him,
Because we trust in His holy name.
22 Let Your favor, Lord, be upon us,
Just as we have waited for You.

### **God Is Drawing Us to Himself**

```
Do you hear God's Word continually prodding you?
It is urging you to
       give thanks to Him!
       Sing to Him!
       Rejoice in Him!
       Praise Him!
       Trust Him!
       Hope in Him!
       Delight in Him!
Do you hear God calling?
God is calling us to Himself.
He is the source of
       all life.
       all love,
       all blessing,
       all that is good for
             heart and soul,
             mind and body.
So out of a deep longing for our very best, He is
       pursuing us,
       inviting us,
       eagerly drawing us to Himself.
If you want all the riches that life offers,
       seek the God who is seeking you.
Talk to Him.
       Walk with Him.
       Confide in Him.
       Love Him.
       Follow Him.
Turn yourself toward
      your Source,
      your Father,
      your God.
```

Hymn recording: Psalm 33



WORDS: Ken Bible MUSIC: Appalachian Folk Tune and Ken Bible TWO SISTERS 2 10.8.9.8.w.Ref.

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CCLI Song #7070318. For CCLI information call 1-800-234-2446.

(NASB)

1 I will bless the Lord at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth. 2 My soul will make its boast in the Lord; The humble will hear it and rejoice. 3 Exalt the Lord with me, And let's exalt His name together.

4 I sought the Lord and He answered me,
And rescued me from all my fears.
5 They looked to Him and were radiant,
And their faces will never be ashamed.
6 This wretched man cried out, and the Lord heard him,
And saved him out of all his troubles.
7 The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear Him,
And rescues them.

8 Taste and see that the Lord is good;
How blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him!
9 Fear the Lord, you His saints;
For to those who fear Him there is no lack of anything.
10 The young lions do without and suffer hunger;
But they who seek the Lord will not lack any good thing.
11 Come, you children, listen to me;
I will teach you the fear of the Lord.
12 Who is the person who desires life
And loves length of days, that he may see good?
13 Keep your tongue from evil
And your lips from speaking deceit.
14 Turn from evil and do good;
Seek peace and pursue it.

15 The eyes of the Lord are toward the righteous, And His ears are toward their cry for help.
16 The face of the Lord is against evildoers, To eliminate the memory of them from the earth.
17 The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears And rescues them from all their troubles.
18 The Lord is near to the brokenhearted And saves those who are crushed in spirit.

19 The afflictions of the righteous are many,

But the Lord rescues him from them all.

20 He protects all his bones,

Not one of them is broken.

21 Evil will bring death to the wicked,

And those who hate the righteous will suffer for their guilt.

22 The Lord redeems the souls of His servants,

And none of those who take refuge in Him will suffer for their guilt.

### **Reflection on Psalm 34**

```
O Father, as I look to You,
my heart fills with
      joy and
      light and
      praise in Your presence!
May it constantly overflow into
      my mouth and
      my life
so that everyone around can
      hear and see
      how great and good You are!
We cry out to You
      in joy or
      in trouble, and
You answer us.
You surround us with
      Your loving presence and
      Your faithful provision.
You don't hold us at arm's length.
In Your divine humility, You invite us to
      taste and
      see
how very good You are!
The more we taste,
the more we see,
the more life becomes
      knowing You,
      trusting You,
      praising You, and
      rejoicing in You.
O Father, I long to praise You
      always,
      with all my being!
```

Hymn recording: Psalm 34



WORDS: Ken Bible MUSIC: African-American Spiritual and Ken Bible  $\begin{array}{c} \text{HEAR FROM HEAVEN 2} \\ \text{8.7.8.4.4.7.} \end{array}$ 

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(NASB)

1 Contend, Lord, with those who contend with me;

Fight against those who fight against me.

2 Take hold of buckler and shield

And rise up as my help.

3 Draw also the spear and the battle-axe to meet those who pursue me;

Say to my soul, "I am your salvation."

4 Let those be ashamed and dishonored who seek my life;

Let those be turned back and humiliated who devise evil against me.

5 Let them be like chaff before the wind,

With the angel of the Lord driving them on.

6 Let their way be dark and slippery,

With the angel of the Lord pursuing them.

7 For they hid their net for me without cause;

Without cause they dug a pit for my soul.

8 Let destruction come upon him when he is unaware.

And let the net which he hid catch him;

Let him fall into that very destruction.

9 So my soul shall rejoice in the Lord;

It shall rejoice in His salvation.

10 All my bones will say, "Lord, who is like You,

Who rescues the afflicted from one who is too strong for him,

And the afflicted and the poor from one who robs him?"

11 Malicious witnesses rise up;

They ask me things that I do not know.

12 They repay me evil for good,

To the bereavement of my soul.

13 But as for me, when they were sick, my clothing was sackcloth;

I humbled my soul with fasting,

But my prayer kept returning to me.

14 I went about as though it were my friend or brother;

I bowed down in mourning, like one who mourns for a mother.

15 But at my stumbling they rejoiced and gathered themselves together;

The afflicted people whom I did not know gathered together against me,

They slandered me without ceasing.

16 Like godless jesters at a feast,

They gnashed at me with their teeth.

17 Lord, how long will You look on?

Rescue my soul from their ravages,

My only life from the lions.

18 I will give You thanks in the great congregation;

I will praise You among a mighty people.

19 Do not let those who are wrongfully my enemies rejoice over me;

Nor let those who hate me for no reason wink maliciously.

20 For they do not speak peace,

But they devise deceitful words against those who are quiet in the land.

21 They opened their mouth wide against me;

They said, "Aha, aha! Our eyes have seen it!"

22 You have seen it, Lord, do not keep silent;

Lord, do not be far from me.

23 Stir Yourself, and awake to my right

And to my cause, my God and my Lord.

24 Judge me, Lord my God, according to Your righteousness,

And do not let them rejoice over me.

25 Do not let them say in their heart, "Aha, our desire!"

Do not let them say, "We have swallowed him up!"

26 May those be ashamed and altogether humiliated who rejoice at my distress;

May those who exalt themselves over me be clothed with shame and dishonor.

27 May those shout for joy and rejoice, who take delight in my vindication;

And may they say continually, "The Lord be exalted,

Who delights in the prosperity of His servant."

28 And my tongue shall proclaim Your righteousness

And Your praise all day long.

### **Reflection on Psalm 35**

```
In this world we are
      surrounded,
      threatened,
      harassed, and
      seduced
by evil
with all its
      hate and
      deadly destructiveness.
But Lord Jesus,
You experienced this evil
      just as we do,
      yet without sin.
      In the world you have tribulation,
      but take courage;
      I have overcome the world. (John 16:33, NASB)
Silently,
passively,
without any resistance,
      You allowed evil to do
      anything it wanted to you.
You were
      tortured,
      put to a cruel, humiliating death
             without any mercy, and
      buried.
Yet now You are
      risen to new life,
      enthroned at the right hand of the Father.
Risen Lord Jesus,
You are
      our Shepherd,
      our Savior,
      our Champion.
You don't just provide our salvation.
You ARE our salvation! (Psalm 35:3)
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```
We gladly,
joyfully,
wholeheartedly
follow wherever You lead,
through suffering,
through death itself,
into new, eternal life,
into the full glory of the Father.
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Praise to You!

Hymn recording: Psalm 35

with Matthew 16:24; John 10:1-4; 15:18-25; Philippians 2:9-11; 3:8-11



WORDS: Ken Bible MUSIC: African-American Spiritual and Ken Bible PURE AND HOLY 2 8.7.8.7.w.Ref.

(NASB)

1 Wrongdoing speaks to the ungodly within his heart;

There is no fear of God before his eyes.

2 For it flatters him in his own eyes

Concerning the discovery of his wrongful deed and the hatred of it.

3 The words of his mouth are wickedness and deceit:

He has ceased to be wise and to do good.

4 He plans wickedness on his bed;

He sets himself on a path that is not good;

He does not reject evil.

5 Your mercy, Lord, extends to the heavens,

Your faithfulness reaches to the skies.

6 Your righteousness is like the mountains of God;

Your judgments are like the great deep.

Lord, You protect mankind and animals.

7 How precious is Your mercy, God!

And the sons of mankind take refuge in the shadow of Your wings.

8 They drink their fill of the abundance of Your house;

And You allow them to drink from the river of Your delights.

9 For the fountain of life is with You;

In Your light we see light.

10 Prolong Your mercy to those who know You,

And Your righteousness to the upright of heart.

11 May the foot of pride not come upon me,

And may the hand of the wicked not drive me away.

12 Those who do injustice have fallen there;

They have been thrust down and cannot rise.

#### Reflection on Psalm 36

When we are wrapped up in ourselves, God,

You rarely cross our minds.

Our wrongness flatters us and

keeps us blind to

how deceived we really are.

We become the center of our own tiny universe.

"Truth" and "right" are flexible terms which

we bend for our own convenience.

But God, Your love and Your truth are

unchanging.

They are as vast and immeasurable as the heavens themselves.

Your justice and rightness are a bottomless abyss.

You are so good to all!

Like a mother bird,

You hide us under Your wings.

You let us drink freely from Your goodness, which is

a mighty river,

full of delights.

You are the fountain of all life.

And only in Your light can

we see reality clearly.

You, Creator -

You are what we need!

You are all that is

lovely and good,

right and noble.

Only as our relationship with You is right

can we be right and true and good again.

Forgive us, Father.

We turn to You.

We ask You.

We trust You now.

Hymn recording: Psalm 36



MUSIC: Appalachian Folk Tune and Ken Bible

PSALM 36 11.11.11.11.

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(NASB)

1 Do not get upset because of evildoers,

Do not be envious of wrongdoers.

2 For they will wither quickly like the grass,

And decay like the green plants.

3 Trust in the Lord and do good;

Live in the land and cultivate faithfulness.

4 Delight yourself in the Lord;

And He will give you the desires of your heart.

5 Commit your way to the Lord,

Trust also in Him, and He will do it.

6 He will bring out your righteousness as the light,

And your judgment as the noonday.

7 Rest in the Lord and wait patiently for Him;

Do not get upset because of one who is successful in his way,

Because of the person who carries out wicked schemes.

8 Cease from anger and abandon wrath;

Do not get upset; it leads only to evildoing.

9 For evildoers will be eliminated.

But those who wait for the Lord, they will inherit the land.

10 Yet a little while and the wicked person will be no more;

And you will look carefully for his place and he will not be there.

11 But the humble will inherit the land

And will delight themselves in abundant prosperity.

12 The wicked plots against the righteous,

And gnashes at him with his teeth.

13 The Lord laughs at him,

For He sees that his day is coming.

14 The wicked have drawn the sword and bent their bow

To take down the afflicted and the needy,

To kill off those who are upright in conduct.

15 Their sword will enter their own heart,

And their bows will be broken.

16 Better is the little of the righteous

Than the abundance of many wicked.

17 For the arms of the wicked will be broken,

But the Lord sustains the righteous.

18 The Lord knows the days of the blameless,

And their inheritance will be forever.

19 They will not be ashamed in the time of evil,

And in the days of famine they will have plenty.

20 But the wicked will perish;

And the enemies of the Lord will be like the glory of the pastures,

They vanish—like smoke they vanish away.

21 The wicked borrows and does not pay back,

But the righteous is gracious and gives.

22 For those blessed by Him will inherit the land,

But those cursed by Him will be eliminated.

23 The steps of a man are established by the Lord,

And He delights in his way.

24 When he falls, he will not be hurled down,

Because the Lord is the One who holds his hand.

25 I have been young and now I am old,

Yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken

Or his descendants begging for bread.

26 All day long he is gracious and lends,

And his descendants are a blessing.

27 Turn from evil and do good,

So that you will dwell forever.

28 For the Lord loves justice

And does not abandon His godly ones;

They are protected forever.

But the descendants of the wicked will be eliminated.

29 The righteous will inherit the land

And dwell in it forever.

30 The mouth of the righteous utters wisdom,

And his tongue speaks justice.

31 The Law of his God is in his heart;

His steps do not slip.

32 The wicked spies upon the righteous

And seeks to kill him.

33 The Lord will not leave him in his hand

Or let him be condemned when he is judged.

34 Wait for the Lord and keep His way,

And He will exalt you to inherit the land;

When the wicked are eliminated, you will see it.

35 I have seen a wicked, violent person

Spreading himself like a luxuriant tree in its native soil.

36 Then he passed away, and behold, he was no more; I searched for him, but he could not be found.
37 Observe the blameless person, and look at the upright; For the person of peace will have a future.
38 But wrongdoers will altogether be destroyed; The future of the wicked will be eliminated.
39 But the salvation of the righteous is from the Lord; He is their strength in time of trouble.
40 The Lord helps them and rescues them; He rescues them from the wicked and saves them, Because they take refuge in Him.

### **Nine Months Pregnant**

"Do I bring to the moment of birth and not give delivery?" says the Lord. (Isaiah 66:9, NIV)

I remember when my wife, Gloria, was pregnant with Jason, our first child. As we attended childbirth classes, she felt the insecurities that I'm sure most mothers-to-be share: Will I be able to do it? Will something go wrong? Even though I was only a coach and hand-holder, I too was apprehensive about the whole process.

I remember the teacher repeating to the class the same basic assurances over and over: childbirth is a natural function, and one way or another, the baby will be born. Unless you've been through it, that probably sounds laughable. But during the long months of waiting and wondering, we clung to those statements. And even when the day came, as Gloria's intense pain gnawed relentlessly, and the hospital staff seemed so unhurried, we wondered if the delivery would ever really happen.

I've been through those times in my life. The relief that I desperately need, or the dream I cherish as deeply as life itself, doesn't come for years...or decades. Most of us endure times when, in some important area, we feel nine months pregnant, with discomfort and pressure that won't quit, but no relief in sight. We feel full term, but God is in no hurry.

During my "labor", Isaiah 66:9 brings me assurance that helps me not only endure, but rejoice. I can testify that God never begins anything in our lives that He won't finish – beautifully, completely, and perfectly. All that His love has conceived, He will deliver, and at the right time.

If you're feeling nine months pregnant, learn to rest in Him more constantly and completely. He is drawing you to Himself. Even as you wait, He is working all things for your good and for the blessing of those around you.

Hymn recording: Psalm 37: "Wait on the Lord"

# Wait on the Lord

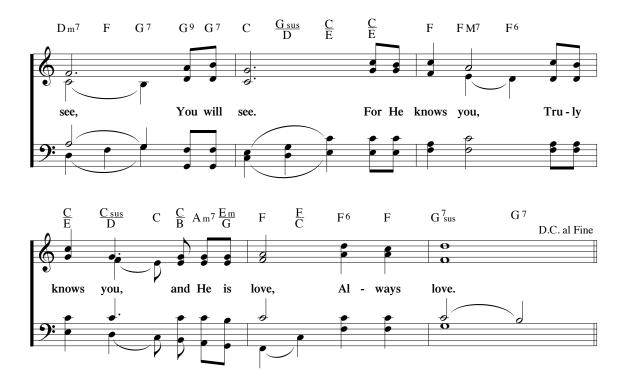


WORDS & MUSIC: Ken Bible

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PSALM 37 Irregular



(NASB)

1 Lord, do not rebuke me in Your wrath,

And do not punish me in Your burning anger.

2 For Your arrows have sunk deep into me,

And Your hand has pressed down on me.

3 There is no healthy part in my flesh because of Your indignation;

There is no health in my bones because of my sin.

4 For my guilty deeds have gone over my head;

Like a heavy burden they weigh too much for me.

5 My wounds grow foul and fester

Because of my foolishness.

6 I am bent over and greatly bowed down;

I go in mourning all day long.

7 For my sides are filled with burning,

And there is no healthy part in my flesh.

8 I feel faint and badly crushed;

I groan because of the agitation of my heart.

9 Lord, all my desire is before You;

And my sighing is not hidden from You.

10 My heart throbs, my strength fails me;

And the light of my eyes, even that has gone from me.

11 My loved ones and my friends stand aloof from my plague;

And my kinsmen stand far away.

12 Those who seek my life lay snares for me;

And those who seek to injure me have threatened destruction,

And they plot deception all day long.

13 But I, like a person who is deaf, do not hear;

And I am like a person who cannot speak, who does not open his mouth.

14 Yes, I am like a person who does not hear,

And in whose mouth are no arguments.

15 For I wait for You, Lord;

You will answer, Lord my God.

16 For I said, "May they not rejoice over me,

Who, when my foot slips, would exalt themselves over me."

17 For I am ready to fall,

And my sorrow is continually before me.

18 For I admit my guilt;

I am full of anxiety because of my sin.

19 But my enemies are vigorous and strong,

And those who wrongfully hate me are many.
20 And those who repay evil for good,
They become my enemies, because I follow what is good.
21 Do not abandon me, Lord;
My God, do not be far from me!
22 Hurry to help me,
Lord, my salvation!

#### **Christ in Psalm 38**

```
Psalm 38 eloquently expresses the agonies of one
      suffering for guilt and sin.
But has anyone suffered for sin as did
      Jesus Christ,
      the guiltless one?
He was pierced (v.2).
He was crushed (vv.4, 8).
He was wounded over and over (v.5).
He was immersed in
      sorrow (v.6) and
      pain (v.7),
      utter abandonment (v.11) and
      vicious hatred (vv.12, 19).
He was repaid
      for the ultimate good
      with the ultimate evil (v.20).
Yet He remained silent,
      unresisting,
      defenseless (vv.13-14).
His hope,
His focus,
His confidence,
the only One He wanted to please was
      His Father alone (v.15).
```

Hymn recording: Christ in Psalm 38

# Christ in Psalm 38

Tune: Beneath the Cross of Jesus (ST. CHRISTOPHER)

Psalm 38: Isaiah 53



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(NASB)

1 I said, "I will keep watch over my ways So that I do not sin with my tongue; I will keep watch over my mouth as with a muzzle While the wicked are in my presence." 2 I was mute and silent.

I refused to say even something good,

And my pain was stirred up.

3 My heart was hot within me,

While I was musing the fire burned;

Then I spoke with my tongue:

4 "Lord, let me know my end,

And what is the extent of my days:

Let me know how transient I am.

5 Behold, You have made my days like hand widths,

And my lifetime as nothing in Your sight;

Certainly all mankind standing is a mere breath. Selah

6 Certainly every person walks around as a fleeting shadow;

They certainly make an uproar for nothing;

He amasses riches and does not know who will gather them.

7 "And now, Lord, for what do I wait?

My hope is in You.

8 Save me from all my wrongdoings;

Do not make me an object of reproach for the foolish.

9 I have become mute, I do not open my mouth,

Because it is You who have done it.

10 Remove Your plague from me;

Because of the opposition of Your hand I am perishing.

11 With rebukes You punish a person for wrongdoing;

You consume like a moth what is precious to him;

Certainly all mankind is mere breath! Selah

12 "Hear my prayer, Lord, and listen to my cry for help;

Do not be silent to my tears;

For I am a stranger with You,

One who lives abroad, like all my fathers.

13 Turn Your eyes away from me, that I may become cheerful again Before I depart and am no more."

#### Reflection on Psalm 39

```
My life here is a single breath.
I am a mist,
      a shadow,
      a sigh,
      a passing breeze.
I live but a few inches in this vast universe.
My possessions then go to another or
      are discarded.
All my grand plans and pretentions
      come to nothing.
They are as powerless and passing
      as the breath in my nostrils.
I am a brief noise,
      a minor disturbance, and then...
      silence.
But Almighty God,
      You are the fountain of being itself.
You are all wisdom,
      all knowing,
      all power,
      all perfection.
You are eternity.
You are life without boundaries,
      without beginning or end.
And as I trust in You, our Lord,
      I share in You and
      all You are -
             me, though I am less than nothing.
I share Your glory,
      Your excellence.
      Your life.
      Your holiness.
Almighty Father, all my hope,
      all my future
      is in You!
```

Hymn recording: Psalm 39



WORDS: Ken Bible MUSIC: Ken Bible, inspired by an Appalachian folk tune

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8.5.8.5.5.

(NASB)

1 I waited patiently for the Lord;

And He reached down to me and heard my cry.

2 He brought me up out of the pit of destruction, out of the mud;

And He set my feet on a rock, making my footsteps firm.

3 He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God;

Many will see and fear

And will trust in the Lord.

4 How blessed is the man who has made the Lord his trust,

And has not turned to the proud, nor to those who become involved in falsehood.

5 Many, Lord my God, are the wonders which You have done,

And Your thoughts toward us;

There is no one to compare with You.

If I would declare and speak of them,

They would be too numerous to count.

6 You have not desired sacrifice and meal offering;

You have opened my ears;

You have not required burnt offering and sin offering.

7 Then I said, "Behold, I have come;

It is written of me in the scroll of the book.

8 I delight to do Your will, my God;

Your Law is within my heart."

9 I have proclaimed good news of righteousness in the great congregation;

Behold, I will not restrain my lips,

Lord, You know.

10 I have not hidden Your righteousness within my heart;

I have spoken of Your faithfulness and Your salvation;

I have not concealed Your mercy and Your truth from the great congregation.

11 You, Lord, will not withhold Your compassion from me;

Your mercy and Your truth will continually watch over me.

12 For evils beyond number have surrounded me;

My guilty deeds have overtaken me, so that I am not able to see;

They are more numerous than the hairs of my head,

And my heart has failed me.

13 Be pleased, Lord, to rescue me;

Hurry, Lord, to help me.

14 May those be ashamed and humiliated together Who seek my life to destroy it;
May those be turned back and dishonored Who delight in my hurt.
15 May those be appalled because of their shame Who say to me, "Aha, aha!"
16 May all who seek You rejoice and be glad in You; May those who love Your salvation continually say, "The Lord be exalted!"
17 But I am afflicted and needy; May the Lord be mindful of me. You are my help and my savior; Do not delay, my God.

#### **Christ in Psalm 40**

```
You deliver me from
      all that oppresses me
      or narrows the fullness of Your life in me.
You free me
      from all the guilt and power of sin,
      from all the wrongness I have ever
             been or
             done.
You remake me, both
      immediately and
      gradually, day by day.
You fill my heart with joy and
      my mouth with praise to You.
You make me a positive influence on everyone around me.
Father, in Jesus Christ You lavish on me
      uncountable blessings,
      tokens of love
             both big and small.
And in return, You don't ask for dramatic sacrifices.
You ask for simple faith,
      expressed in simple obedience.
You give me the Spirit of Christ and enable me to
      love and
      serve and
      trust You as He did.
That is my deepest desire, my Father.
I want to delight in You and
      glorify You and
      live in You
as constantly and
      completely
as did Your wonderful Son, Jesus Christ.
```

Father, as I trust in Jesus Christ,

Hymn recording: Christ in Psalm 40

# **Christ in Psalm 40**

Tune: Rise Up, O Church of God (FESTAL SONG) Psalm 40; Matthew 16:24; Hebrews 10:1-25



WORDS: Ken Bible FESTAL SONG MUSIC: William H. Walter (1825-1893); rev. arr. by Ken Bible S.M.

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(NASB)

1 Blessed is one who considers the helpless;
The Lord will save him on a day of trouble.
2 The Lord will protect him and keep him alive,
And he will be called blessed upon the earth;
And do not turn him over to the desire of his enemies.
3 The Lord will sustain him upon his sickbed;
In his illness, You restore him to health.

4 As for me, I said, "Lord, be gracious to me;
Heal my soul, for I have sinned against You."
5 My enemies speak evil against me,
"When will he die, and his name perish?"
6 And when he comes to see me, he speaks empty words;
His heart gathers wickedness to itself;
When he goes outside, he tells it.
7 All who hate me whisper together against me;
They plot my harm against me, saying,
8 "A wicked thing is poured out upon him,
So that when he lies down, he will not get up again."
9 Even my close friend in whom I trusted,
Who ate my bread,
Has lifted up his heel against me.

10 But You, Lord, be gracious to me and raise me up,
That I may repay them.
11 By this I know that You are pleased with me,
Because my enemy does not shout in triumph over me.
12 As for me, You uphold me in my integrity,
And You place me in Your presence forever.

13 Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, From everlasting to everlasting.
Amen and Amen.

#### **Reflection on Psalm 41**

```
Father, You care deeply about
      the poor and
      the helpless.
And in Jesus Christ,
      You take all their troubles upon Yourself.
      You take all our troubles upon Yourself.
Jesus bore
      our weaknesses,
      our diseases, and
      our ignorance.
He bore
      all our sin and
      all its bitter fruit.
He was
      pierced by our betrayal,
      crushed by our guilt,
      beaten and bloodied by our
             fear and
             small-minded self-centeredness.
Father.
      in place of our self-centeredness
help us to share
      Jesus' self-giving love.
Help us to
      trust You,
      cling to You, and
      find joy in You
as He did,
      in every circumstance,
      in life, and
      in death.
```

Hymn recording: Psalm 41



WORDS & MUSIC: Ken Bible

PSALM 41 6.5.6.5.5.

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(NASB)

1 As the deer pants for the water brooks,
So my soul pants for You, God.
2 My soul thirsts for God, for the living God;
When shall I come and appear before God?
3 My tears have been my food day and night,
While they say to me all day long, "Where is your God?"
4 I remember these things and pour out my soul within me.
For I used to go over with the multitude and walk them to the house of God,
With a voice of joy and thanksgiving, a multitude celebrating a festival.

5 Why are you in despair, my soul?
And why are you restless within me?
Wait for God, for I will again praise Him
For the help of His presence, my God.
6 My soul is in despair within me;
Therefore I remember You from the land of the Jordan
And the peaks of Hermon, from Mount Mizar.
7 Deep calls to deep at the sound of Your waterfalls;
All Your breakers and Your waves have passed over me.
8 The Lord will send His goodness in the daytime;
And His song will be with me in the night,
A prayer to the God of my life.

9 I will say to God my rock, "Why have You forgotten me?
Why do I go about mourning because of the oppression of the enemy?"
10 As a shattering of my bones, my adversaries taunt me,
While they say to me all day long, "Where is your God?"
11 Why are you in despair, my soul?
And why are you restless within me?
Wait for God, for I will again praise Him
For the help of His presence, my God.

#### Rest

Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. (Matthew 11:28, NIV)

Father, I've turned everywhere else.
I've sought relaxation instead of rest.
I've substituted comfort for peace.
The shell of security I've tried to build only weighs me down with anxiety.

I hear Your words of love:

In quietness and trust is your strength. (Isaiah 30:15, NIV)

Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. (Matthew 11:29, NIV)

O God of fervent love, passionately jealous for my best good, I turn to You now.

What if I could truly know You not just know *about* You, but know *You*?

What if by simple trust I could realize Your personal presence with me, moment by moment?

If in that presence I could know Your gentleness, Your power, Your faithfulness, Your love?

If trust could become a personal relationship between us, not an abstract concept?

What if I could simply know You, and know You always with me?

Would Your rest then reign in me? Would it fill my mind, my emotions, and the desires of my heart?

Would it put me at peace with the past, at peace with the present, and eagerly anticipating a glorious future in You?

Would it reconcile me to myself, to each person in my life, and to You?

Could I go to bed in it, get up in it, work, have fun, and face adversity in it without getting it wrinkled?

Would I then share Your deep peace—
that wholeness and harmony
You enjoy within Yourself,
that is found in You alone?

Come to me...and I will give you rest. (Matthew 11:28, NIV)

Father, I want to know You.

I want to rest in Your presence.

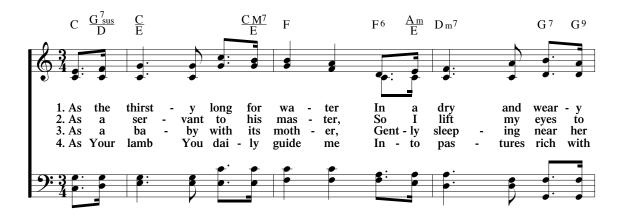
I come to You now.

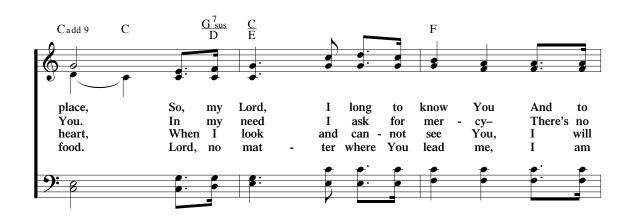
**Hymn recording:** Psalm of Trust

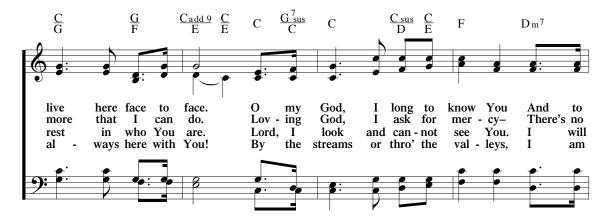
# **Psalm of Trust**

Psalm 42; 123; 131; 23







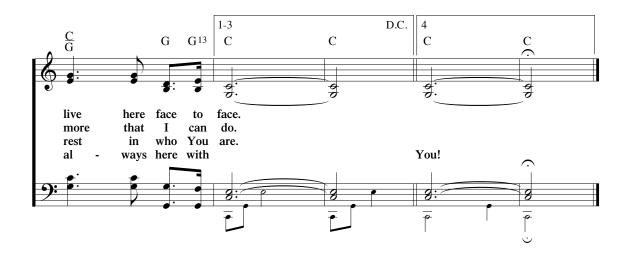


WORDS & MUSIC: Ken Bible

SIMPLE TRUST 8.7.8.7.8.7.

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(NASB)

1 As the deer pants for the water brooks,
So my soul pants for You, God.
2 My soul thirsts for God, for the living God;
When shall I come and appear before God?
3 My tears have been my food day and night,
While they say to me all day long, "Where is your God?"
4 I remember these things and pour out my soul within me.
For I used to go over with the multitude and walk them to the house of God,
With a voice of joy and thanksgiving, a multitude celebrating a festival.

5 Why are you in despair, my soul?
And why are you restless within me?
Wait for God, for I will again praise Him
For the help of His presence, my God.
6 My soul is in despair within me;
Therefore I remember You from the land of the Jordan
And the peaks of Hermon, from Mount Mizar.
7 Deep calls to deep at the sound of Your waterfalls;
All Your breakers and Your waves have passed over me.
8 The Lord will send His goodness in the daytime;
And His song will be with me in the night,
A prayer to the God of my life.

9 I will say to God my rock, "Why have You forgotten me?
Why do I go about mourning because of the oppression of the enemy?"
10 As a shattering of my bones, my adversaries taunt me,
While they say to me all day long, "Where is your God?"
11 Why are you in despair, my soul?
And why are you restless within me?
Wait for God, for I will again praise Him
For the help of His presence, my God

### Psalm 43

(NASB)

1 Vindicate me, God, and plead my case against an ungodly nation; Save me from the deceitful and unjust person! 2 For You are the God of my strength; why have You rejected me? Why do I go about mourning because of the oppression of the enemy?

3 Send out Your light and Your truth, they shall lead me; They shall bring me to Your holy hill And to Your dwelling places. 4 Then I will go to the altar of God, To God my exceeding joy; And I will praise You on the lyre, God, my God.

5 Why are you in despair, my soul? And why are you restless within me? Wait for God, for I will again praise Him For the help of His presence, my God.

### **Reflection on Psalms 42-43**

the voice of worry and the voice of faith, between the brutal reality of my needs and the beautiful reality of Your promises. Life daily challenges my trust in You. But in You. even these challenges become blessings. I am weak, but You are my strength. Life is grief and sorrow, but You are my unchanging joy. Life is turmoil, but You are unshakable peace. The world is noise, but You are my song. In the darkness of my ignorance, You are the Light. In my anxious grasping for security, You are my daily bread. O my Father, Fountain of Life, Living Water, nothing else satisfies. Nothing else gives me what I need. Nothing else makes me who I need to be. Nothing else lasts. I thirst for You.

Father, my life is a tug-of-war between

**Hymn recording:** Psalms 42-43

### **Psalms 42-43**

Tune: Jesus Calls Us (GALILEE, alt.)



WORDS: Ken Bible MUSIC: William H. Jude (1887) and Ken Bible GALILEE 2

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8.7.8.7.

(NASB)

1 God, we have heard with our ears,

Our fathers have told us

The work that You did in their days,

In the days of old.

2 You with Your own hand drove out the nations;

Then You planted them;

You afflicted the peoples,

Then You let them go free.

3 For by their own sword they did not possess the land,

And their own arm did not save them,

But Your right hand and Your arm and the light of Your presence,

For You favored them.

4 You are my King, God;

Command victories for Jacob.

5 Through You we will push back our adversaries;

Through Your name we will trample down those who rise up against us.

6 For I will not trust in my bow,

Nor will my sword save me.

7 But You have saved us from our adversaries,

And You have put to shame those who hate us.

8 In God we have boasted all day long,

And we will give thanks to Your name forever. Selah

9 Yet You have rejected us and brought us to dishonor,

And do not go out with our armies.

10 You cause us to turn back from the enemy;

And those who hate us have taken spoils for themselves.

11 You turn us over to be eaten like sheep,

And have scattered us among the nations.

12 You sell Your people cheaply,

And have not profited by their sale.

13 You make us an object of reproach to our neighbors,

Of scoffing and ridicule to those around us.

14 You make us a proverb among the nations,

A laughingstock among the peoples.

15 All day long my dishonor is before me

And I am covered with my humiliation,

16 Because of the voice of one who taunts and reviles,

Because of the presence of the enemy and the avenger.

17 All this has come upon us, but we have not forgotten You, And we have not dealt falsely with Your covenant.
18 Our heart has not turned back,
And our steps have not deviated from Your way,
19 Yet You have crushed us in a place of jackals
And covered us with deep darkness.

20 If we had forgotten the name of our God Or extended our hands to a strange god, 21 Would God not find this out?
For He knows the secrets of the heart.
22 But for Your sake we are killed all day long; We are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.
23 Wake Yourself up, why do You sleep, Lord? Awake, do not reject us forever.
24 Why do You hide Your face And forget our affliction and oppression?
25 For our souls have sunk down into the dust; Our bodies cling to the earth.
26 Rise up, be our help, And redeem us because of Your mercy.

### **Reflection on Psalm 44**

```
Father, You
      are and
      always have been and
      always will be
Almighty God -
      unlimited power,
      unfailing love, and
      absolute dependability.
You are
      always able,
      always knowing all things, and
      always eager to
save us from whatever
      threatens,
      harms, or
      binds us.
But sometimes, receiving Your deliverance means
      waiting,
      patiently trusting, and
      patiently enduring
for
      Your prefect will in
      Your perfect time.
Father, through such times,
      keep us strong in faith,
      with our eyes fixed on You.
```

Hymn recording: Psalm 44



WORDS & MUSIC: Ken Bible and African-American Spiritual

STEADY 2 7.7.7.w.Ref.

(NASB)

1 My heart is moved with a good theme;

I address my verses to the King;

My tongue is the pen of a ready writer.

2 You are the most handsome of the sons of mankind;

Grace is poured upon Your lips;

Therefore God has blessed You forever.

3 Strap Your sword on Your thigh, Mighty One,

In Your splendor and majesty!

4 And in Your majesty ride on victoriously,

For the cause of truth, humility, and righteousness;

Let Your right hand teach You awesome things.

5 Your arrows are sharp;

The peoples fall under You;

Your arrows are in the heart of the King's enemies.

6 Your throne, God, is forever and ever;

The scepter of Your kingdom is a scepter of justice.

7 You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness;

Therefore God, Your God, has anointed You

With the oil of joy above Your companions.

8 All Your garments are fragrant with myrrh, aloes, and cassia;

From ivory palaces stringed instruments have made You joyful.

9 Kings' daughters are among Your noble women;

At Your right hand stands the gueen in gold from Ophir.

10 Listen, daughter, look and incline your ear:

Forget your people and your father's house;

11 Then the King will crave your beauty.

Because He is your Lord, bow down to Him.

12 The daughter of Tyre will come with a gift;

The wealthy among the people will seek your favor.

13 The King's daughter is all glorious within;

Her clothing is interwoven with gold.

14 She will be brought to the King in colorful garments;

The virgins, her companions who follow her,

Will be brought to You.

15 They will be brought with joy and rejoicing;

They will enter into the King's palace.

16 In place of your fathers will be your sons;You shall make them princes in all the earth.17 I will make Your name known among all generations;Therefore the peoples will praise You forever and ever.

### **Christ Your Bridegroom**

Based on Psalm 45

Believers, you are engaged to Jesus Christ. He is the most beautiful person of all our race. His words are always grace, kindness, and His entire life is permeated with God's richest blessings. All that He is and all that He does are filled with the the wisdom, the love, and the holy majesty of God With sovereign power He reigns in truth and rightness over all that is. He protects and defends God's people against all who would harm them. His rule is complete, universal, and forever. This One is your Bridegroom. He loves you deeply and passionately, with all His being. You are stunningly beautiful in His eyes, pure and glorious. What does your future hold? You are about to experience what it means to be the beloved bride of a Great King. You will be richly adorned in all His magnificence. A train of attendants will accompany you into His palace. Cheering crowds will surround you.

His entire realm will rejoice at your wedding.

```
Your life will be
brand new.

The love you share with Him will be
fruitful beyond all imagination.

All will give thanks for you.

Even the rich and powerful of the universe will honor you because you are wed to the Lord of all.
```

```
Beloved bride,
forget your past.
Put it forever behind you, and
focus on your future.
Keep yourself pure for Him alone.
Give all you are completely to Him,
body,
mind, and
spirit.
```

What an honor,
what a joy,
to be the chosen bride of the King!

Hymn recording: Psalm 45: "See Christ, Your Bridegroom"

# See Christ, Your Bridegroom

TUNE: Thine Be the Glory (alt.)

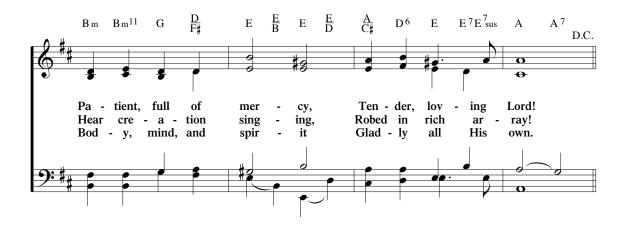
Psalm 45; 2 Corinthians 11:2-3; Ephesians 5:25-27



WORDS: Ken Bible MUSIC: George Frederick Handel and Ken Bible JUDAS MACCABEUS 2 5.5.6.5.6.5.6.5.

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### **Christ in Psalm 45**

What is the goal toward which He is leading us? Our future is full and perfect union with His holy, human Son, Jesus Christ. We are engaged to Him. As His people, we are His betrothed, His fiancé. Our destiny is to be His beautiful bride, joyfully one with Him, united in heart. in mind, in purpose. We will fully, eternally share His life, His love, His radiant glory, and His intimate presence. So let's remember who we are and live like it. Let's share His heart. Let's love as He loves. serve as He serves, and sacrifice ourselves as He sacrificed Himself, freely and without reserve. Let's live and love as the future bride of Jesus Christ,

the King of all Kings.

As God's Church,

what is our destiny?

For what is God preparing us?

Hymn recording: Christ in Psalm 45

### **Christ in Psalm 45**

TUNE: O Breath of Life (DET AR ETT FAST ORD, alt.)



WORDS: Ken Bible
MUSIC: Joel Blomquist (1877) and Ken Bible
DET AR ETT FAST ORD
9.8.9.8.

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(NASB)

1 God is our refuge and strength, A very ready help in trouble.

2 Therefore we will not fear, though the earth shakes

And the mountains slip into the heart of the sea;

3 Though its waters roar and foam,

Though the mountains quake at its swelling pride. Selah

4 There is a river whose streams make the city of God happy,

The holy dwelling places of the Most High.

5 God is in the midst of her, she will not be moved;

God will help her when morning dawns.

6 The nations made an uproar, the kingdoms tottered;

He raised His voice, the earth quaked.

7 The Lord of armies is with us:

The God of Jacob is our stronghold. Selah

8 Come, behold the works of the Lord,

Who has inflicted horrific events on the earth.

9 He makes wars to cease to the end of the earth:

He breaks the bow and cuts the spear in two;

He burns the chariots with fire.

10 "Stop striving and know that I am God;

I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted on the earth."

11 The Lord of armies is with us;

The God of Jacob is our stronghold. Selah

### **Reflection on Psalm 46**

```
Almighty,
unchallenged God
      sovereign,
      eternal,
      all-wise,
      all-loving,
we rest in You.
We are threatened by change.
      We feel helpless before it.
But You are unchanging.
Nothing can touch
      Your goodness or
      the absolute certainty of Your rich gifts.
Where You are is
      peace, and
      You are forever with Your people.
What You say becomes
      reality, and
      You always speak blessings for those who trust You.
O God, our Father,
      be exalted throughout all the earth!
We rest secure in
      Your perfect will.
                                  Father, help me to
                                  trust in all You are
```

the joy of all You are.

Hymn recording: Psalm 46

so that I may live in



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WORDS: Ken Bible

MUSIC: Appalachian Folk Tune and Ken Bible

CCLI Song #7116045. For CCLI information call 1-800-234-2446.

EBB AND FLOW

11.11.11.11.

#### God Will Be Exalted

Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth. (Psalm 46:10, NIV)

Though the mountains collapse into the sea, though the earth goes up in flame and the sun shines no more, we need not fear, for God will be exalted.

Though our personal world collapses, though others abandon us and our body decays, we will lift our eyes, for God will be exalted.

This will be our joy, our peace, and our security:

God will be exalted.

Whatever happens or doesn't happen to us, this is our goal, this is our prayer, this is our one concern, that

God will be exalted.

Father, as I bring You my daily concerns,
I ask also that You teach me to
share Your concerns.
You are the highest good, the only good.
I long for Your glory, Your kingdom, Your will.
Teach me to pray with
Your heart, Your mind, Your Spirit.
Form Christ in me.

Hymn recording: Psalm 46: "God Will Be Exalted"

## God Will Be Exalted



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(NASB)

1 Clap your hands, all you peoples;
Shout to God with a voice of joy.
2 For the Lord Most High is to be feared,
A great King over all the earth.
3 He subdues peoples under us
And nations under our feet.
4 He chooses our inheritance for us,
The pride of Jacob whom He loves. Selah

5 God has ascended with a shout,
The Lord, with the sound of a trumpet.
6 Sing praises to God, sing praises;
Sing praises to our King, sing praises.
7 For God is the King of all the earth;
Sing praises with a psalm of wisdom.
8 God reigns over the nations,
God sits on His holy throne.
9 The princes of the people have assembled as the people of the God of Abraham,
For the shields of the earth belong to God;
He is highly exalted.

### **Reflection on Psalm 47**

```
Clap your hands!
Shout to God!
Sing for joy!
Let your body join your heart in praising
Jesus Christ,
the King of all the earth.
```

For He is not the Lord of
one nation,
one religion, or
one culture.

He is the Creator of all that is.
He offers complete, eternal salvation to
every member of our race, to
every child of Adam.

He lovingly blesses His people with
all the riches of
all He is.

And He crushes the Evil One under our feet.

All His children from every time and place gather as He ascends His holy throne.

What shouting!

What singing!

Now and for all eternity we gather not as many peoples, but as one people:

the People of the Living Christ.

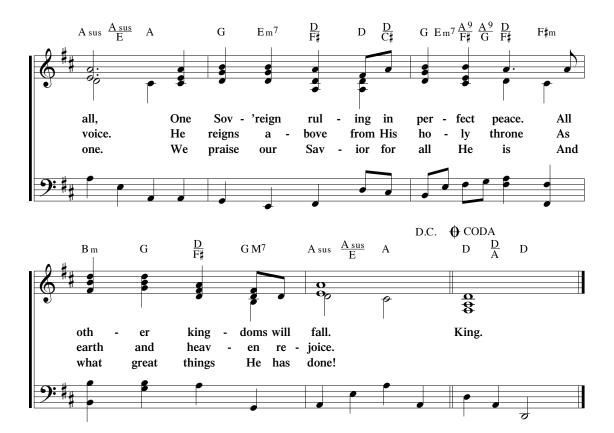
See Him high and lifted up!
The gathering has begun.
Clap your hands!
Raise a shout!
Join the singing!

Hymn recording: Psalm 47



WORDS & MUSIC: Ken Bible

PSALM 47 9.7.9.7.w.Ref.



(NASB)

1 Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised In the city of our God, His holy mountain.
2 Beautiful in elevation, the joy of the whole earth, Is Mount Zion in the far north,
The city of the great King.
3 In its palaces,
God has made Himself known as a stronghold.

4 For, behold, the kings arrived,
They passed by together.
5 They saw it, then they were amazed;
They were terrified, they fled in a hurry.
6 Panic seized them there,
Anguish, as that of a woman in childbirth.
7 With the east wind
You smash the ships of Tarshish.
8 Just as we have heard, so have we seen
In the city of the Lord of armies, in the city of our God;
God will establish her forever. Selah

9 We have thought over Your goodness, God, In the midst of Your temple. 10 As is Your name, God, So is Your praise to the ends of the earth; Your right hand is full of righteousness. 11 Mount Zion shall be glad, The daughters of Judah shall rejoice Because of Your judgments. 12 Walk around Zion and encircle her; Count her towers; 13 Consider her ramparts; Go through her palaces, So that you may tell of her to the next generation. 14 For such is God, Our God forever and ever: He will lead us until death

#### Reflection on Psalm 48

Father, Your greatness, the splendor of Your presence, the glory of Your goodness, the beauty of Your holiness are seen most fully, most clearly, right now, not in any buildings of brick and mortar, but in the gathering of Your people.

From these

thoroughly human jars of clay (2 Corinthians 4:7)

Your radiance.

the radiance of the incarnate Christ,

glows for all to see.

Their joy in You reflects

Your joy in us.

Their active, smiling love for each other and

for the needy

testifies to Your smiling love for all.

Yes, they are still growing in You, and You are still growing in them. But the likeness is undeniable and beautiful.

Do you want to catch just a glimpse of the heavenly Jerusalem? Gather with God's people. Each is a palace of the Great King, though still under construction. Each is an eternal monument to His amazing grace.

And together, all of them, all of us, are the temple of the Living God.

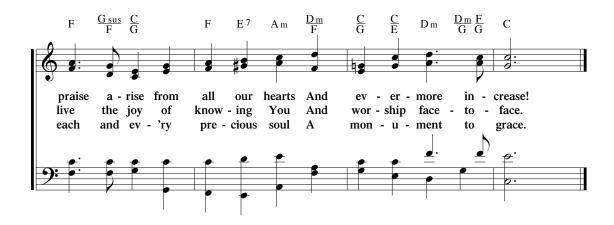
Hymn recording: Psalm 48



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CCLI Song #7170250.



(NASB)

1 Hear this, all peoples;
Listen, all inhabitants of the world,
2 Both low and high,
Rich and poor together.
3 My mouth will speak wisdom,
And the meditation of my heart will be understanding.
4 I will incline my ear to a proverb;
I will express my riddle on the harp.

5 Why should I fear in days of adversity,
When the injustice of those who betray me surrounds me,
6 Those who trust in their wealth
And boast in the abundance of their riches?
7 No one can by any means redeem another
Or give God a ransom for him—
8 For the redemption of his soul is priceless,
And he should cease imagining forever—
9 That he might live on eternally,
That he might not undergo decay.

10 For he sees that even wise people die;
The foolish and the stupid alike perish
And leave their wealth to others.
11 Their inner thought is that their houses are forever
And their dwelling places to all generations;
They have named their lands after their own names.
12 But man in his splendor will not endure;
He is like the animals that perish.

13 This is the way of those who are foolish,
And of those after them who approve their words. Selah
14 Like sheep they sink down to Sheol;
Death will be their shepherd;
And the upright will rule over them in the morning,
And their form shall be for Sheol to consume
So that they have no lofty home.
15 But God will redeem my soul from the [i]power of Sheol,
For He will receive me. Selah

16 Do not be afraid when a person becomes rich,

When the splendor of his house is increased;

17 For when he dies, he will take nothing with him;

His wealth will not descend after him.

18 Though while he lives he congratulates himself—

And though people praise you when you do well for yourself—

19 He will go to the generation of his fathers;

They will never see the light.

20 Mankind in its splendor, yet without understanding,

Is like the animals that perish.

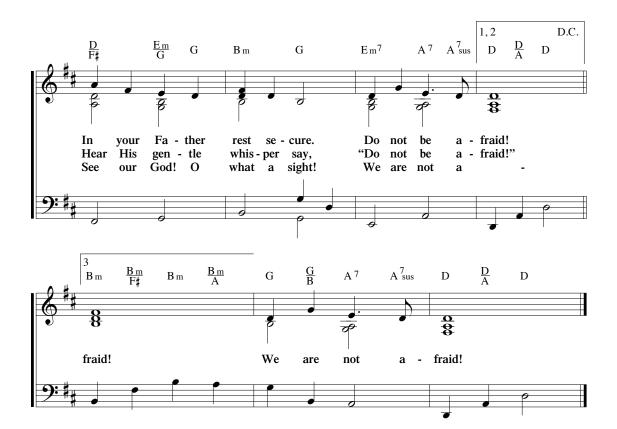
### **Reflection on Psalm 49**

```
Does your world seem filled with
      constant,
      ever-stirring,
      inescapable evil?
Remember:
      God Himself is the only source of life.
      Everything that is not of Him
             will soon be gone.
Evil is temporary.
God's overflowing love is forever.
Do not be afraid!
When suffering comes,
      or grief,
and your heart wants to
      scream or
      weep or
      run,
remember:
      God is boundless life.
Suffering is temporary.
Patiently endure and
      trust His love.
Do not be afraid!
Christ has defeated and
      demolished death.
He is the Good Shepherd, and
      when the time comes,
      He will lead you through the valley of death.
      He knows the way to the Father's house.
Keep your eyes on Him and
      follow.
Do not be afraid!
```

Hymn recording: Psalm 49



WORDS & MUSIC: Ken Bible PSALM 49 5.5.5.5.7.7.7.5.



(NASB)

1 The Mighty One, God, the Lord, has spoken

And summoned the earth, from the rising of the sun to its setting.

2 Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty,

God has shone.

3 May our God come and not keep silent;

Fire devours before Him,

And a storm is violently raging around Him.

4 He summons the heavens above,

And the earth, to judge His people:

5 "Gather My godly ones to Me,

Those who have made a covenant with Me by sacrifice."

6 And the heavens declare His righteousness,

For God Himself is judge. Selah

7 "Hear, My people, and I will speak;

Israel, I will testify against you;

I am God, your God.

8 I do not rebuke you for your sacrifices,

And your burnt offerings are continually before Me.

9 I will not take a bull from your house,

Nor male goats from your folds.

10 For every animal of the forest is Mine,

The cattle on a thousand hills.

11 I know every bird of the mountains,

And everything that moves in the field is Mine.

12 If I were hungry I would not tell you,

For the world is Mine, and everything it contains.

13 Shall I eat the flesh of bulls

Or drink the blood of male goats?

14 Offer God a sacrifice of thanksgiving

And pay your vows to the Most High;

15 Call upon Me on the day of trouble;

I will rescue you, and you will honor Me."

16 But to the wicked God says,

"What right do you have to tell of My statutes

And to take My covenant in your mouth?

17 For you yourself hate discipline,

And you throw My words behind you.

18 When you see a thief, you become friends with him,

And you associate with adulterers.

19 You let your mouth loose in evil,
And your tongue harnesses deceit.

20 You sit and speak against your brother;
You slander your own mother's son.

21 These things you have done and I kept silent;
You thought that I was just like you;
I will rebuke you and present the case before your eyes.

22 "Now consider this, you who forget God,
Or I will tear you in pieces, and there will be no one to save you.
23 He who offers a sacrifice of thanksgiving honors Me;
And to him who sets his way properly
I will show the salvation of God."

### **Reflection on Psalm 50**

```
Hear your God speaking to you:
"Child, let's talk honestly.
You seem content to
       say the right words and
       go through the right motions.
But it's not
      your words or
      your ceremonies
that I want.
I don't need them.
      I don't need anything.
I am full to overflowing.
I don't long to receive.
I long to give.
"I see your
       empty,
       confused,
       self-centered life,
and there are so many
      wonderful things
       I want to give you.
"But your heart is a million miles away,
       chasing so much
      that will leave you even emptier.
If you want to put
      your life right and
      yourself right,
child.
start with Me.
I am your Creator,
       your Savior,
      your Father.
"Start with Me.
Come -
      talk to Me!"
```

Hymn recording: Psalm 50



WORDS: Ken Bible MUSIC: African-American Spiritual and Ken Bible O DANIEL 2 8.7.7.6.w.Ref.