



Union Grove Missionary Baptist Church, Inc.
809 S. Davis Dr.
Warner Robins, GA 31088
www.thegrovewr.org

David Anthony Clarke, Sr., Senior Pastor



Lesson 5: Psalm 6-8

Psalm 6

Author: David

Background:

Theme: Sheminith is an obscure Hebrew term, which means “the eighth”

Outline (*All outlines are taken from Warren Wiersbe's The Bible Exposition Commentary unless otherwise noted.*)

This psalm is referred to as a penitential psalm-one in which the writer is being disciplined by God and experiencing suffering. Other penitential psalms are 32, 38, 51, 102, 130, and 143. Others say it is more of an individual lament psalm where David cries out in anguish over the acts of his enemies.

1. The Pain of Discipline (v.1-3)

The verbs “rebuke” (*tôkîhēnî*) and “discipline” (*tʿyassʿrēnî*) are often synonymous. The “rebuke” of the Lord may be a form of judgment, but it may also be in the form of a lesson in life (Deut 4:36; 8:5; 2 Sam 7:14; Ps 94:10; Prov 3:12¹)

Heb. 12:7-9 NLT ⁷As you endure this divine discipline, remember that God is treating you as his own children. Who ever heard of a child who is never disciplined by its father? ⁸If God doesn't discipline you as he does all of his children, it means

¹ Gaebelein, F. E., VanGemern, W., Ross, A. P., Wright, J. S., & Kinlaw, D. F. (1991). *The Expositor's Bible Commentary, Volume 5: Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs* (97). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House.

that you are illegitimate and are not really his children at all. ⁹Since we respected our earthly fathers who disciplined us, shouldn't we submit even more to the discipline of the Father of our spirits, and live forever?²

"...how long?" This is asked 16 other times in psalms: 6:3; 13:1-2; 35:17; 62:3; 74:9-10; 79:5; 80:4; 82:2; 89:46; 90:13 & 94:13.

2. The Futility of Death (v.4-5)

3. The Strain of **Despair** (v.5-7)

In previous psalms, we read of David's peace in the midst of his troubles. Not so this time (v.6).

4. The **Joy** of Deliverance (v.8-10)

Radical change in tone; suddenly transitions from gloom to glory! We see transitions like this in other psalms: 28:6; 31:19.

No matter how deep our anguish, we can rejoice in God's power to deliver!

Psalm 7

Author: David

SHIGGAION — "to reel about through drink"; the word denotes a lyrical poem composed under strong mental emotion; a song of impassioned imagination accompanied with suitable music. –Easton's Bible Dictionary

Background:

Theme: God's vindication of His servant and judgment on his enemies.

The specific genre of Psalm 7 has been difficult to determine because it contains elements of an individual lament (vv. 1–2), an oath (vv. 3–5), a psalm of Yahweh's kingship (vv. 6–12), and a thanksgiving hymn (v. 17). The structure of the psalm falls into these parts:

1. Prayer for **Refuge** (v. 1–2)

The psalmist feels as if he is being mauled by a lion and torn to pieces (v. 2; cf. 10:9; 17:12; 22:12–13, 16, 20–21; 35:17; 57:4; 58:6; 124:6). In his utter helplessness he calls on his covenant God who has promised to be ready to help. ³

2. **Oath of Innocence** (v. 3–5)

3. **God's Righteous Judgment** (v. 6–13)

He believes that when God is provoked, "justice" (*mišpāṭ*) will be done. Hence the

² Tyndale House Publishers. (2004). *Holy Bible : New Living Translation*. (2nd ed.) (Heb 12:7–9). Wheaton, Ill.: Tyndale House Publishers.

³ Gaebelein, F. E., VanGemern, W., Ross, A. P., Wright, J. S., & Kinlaw, D. F. (1991). *The Expositor's Bible Commentary, Volume 5: Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs* (101). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House.

repetitive prayer requesting the Lord to act: “Arise, ... rise up.... Awake.”⁴

4. Judgment of the Guilty (v. 14-16)

Evil is metaphorically portrayed as a “lion” (v. 2), an army (v. 5), and in these verses in the language of conception and birth (v. 14). The wicked are filled with evil, as a pregnant woman about to give birth.⁵

5. Praise of God’s Righteousness (v. 17)⁶

Our despair must be transformed into hope that is expressed in the singing of praise to the Lord!

The Psalms celebrate or “remember” (cf. Exod 3:15) “the name” of the Lord as the object of thanksgiving, confidence, and prayer. The “name” Yahweh is the revelation of the glory of God in his acts of creation and redemption and in the revelation of his person. The faithful love and rejoice in the name: “But let all who take refuge in you be glad; / let them ever sing for joy. / Spread your protection over them, / that those who love your name may rejoice in you” (5:11; cf. 9:2; 18:49).

The name of God is the name of the Creator-Redeemer-King. He is not the Redeemer of Israel only because Yahweh is the Creator: “O LORD [YHWH ‘Yahweh’], our Lord, / how majestic is your name in all the earth! / You have set your glory / above the heavens” (8:1; cf. v. 9; 124:8).⁷

Worship of the “name” consists of remembrance of all God’s perfections and mighty acts in creation and redemption.⁸

Psalm 8

Author: David

“Gittith”=winepress

Background:

Theme:

This psalm can be considered as a hymn of *creation praise*. Psalms 33, 104, and 145 are other such hymns.

⁴ Gaebelein, F. E., VanGemern, W., Ross, A. P., Wright, J. S., & Kinlaw, D. F. (1991). *The Expositor's Bible Commentary, Volume 5: Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs* (103). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House.

⁵ Gaebelein, F. E., VanGemern, W., Ross, A. P., Wright, J. S., & Kinlaw, D. F. (1991). *The Expositor's Bible Commentary, Volume 5: Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs* (106). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House.

⁶ Gaebelein, F. E., VanGemern, W., Ross, A. P., Wright, J. S., & Kinlaw, D. F. (1991). *The Expositor's Bible Commentary, Volume 5: Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs* (101). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House.

⁷ Gaebelein, F. E., VanGemern, W., Ross, A. P., Wright, J. S., & Kinlaw, D. F. (1991). *The Expositor's Bible Commentary, Volume 5: Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs* (107). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House.

⁸ Gaebelein, F. E., VanGemern, W., Ross, A. P., Wright, J. S., & Kinlaw, D. F. (1991). *The Expositor's Bible Commentary, Volume 5: Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs* (108). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House.

1. God Created Us (v.1-2, 5a)

The created works of God are to make His name known in all the earth (66:1; 83:18; Ex. 9:14, 16).

Babes=children able to play in the streets
Sucklings=babies not yet weaned

2. God Cares for Us (v.3-4)

Why did God invest man with glory? Why does God uniquely care for man? The questions are poetic devices to evoke a sense of awe and place a proper perspective on one's self-worth. The Creator has invested glory and honor on man. The verbs "mindful" ("remember") and "care for" ("visit") convey the care of God, who remembers positively by acting on behalf of man.⁹

God Cares!!! Matt. 10:29-31; I Pt. 5:7

3. God Crowns Us (v.5-8)

We are frail creatures of dust created in God's image. Instead of being a little higher than animals as science supposes, we are actually "a little lower than angels".

Man's position over creation was granted before the Fall (Gen 1:28), but it was not taken away from him (Gen 9:1-3, 7). Man is God's appointed governor over creation. His function on earth is to maintain order, to shine his light on creation, and to keep a beneficent relationship with all that God has created on earth and in the sea: beasts of the field, birds of the air, fish and the creatures of the sea (vv. 7-8). The Great King has appointed man to maintain dominion over creation ("put everything under his feet") and not be controlled by creation. All creatures, domesticated and wild, are subject to man's authority and may at his will be used for food (Gen 9:3).¹⁰

⁹ Gaebelain, F. E., VanGemern, W., Ross, A. P., Wright, J. S., & Kinlaw, D. F. (1991). *The Expositor's Bible Commentary, Volume 5: Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs* (112). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House.

¹⁰ Gaebelain, F. E., VanGemern, W., Ross, A. P., Wright, J. S., & Kinlaw, D. F. (1991). *The Expositor's Bible Commentary, Volume 5: Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs* (114). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House.