

PRAYING PSALM 17

“Hear a just cause, O Lord, attend to my cry” (Psalm 17:1).

This a cry for justice (1-3). David wanted God to vindicate him from wrong that was done to him. He wanted God to vindicate him. David asked the Lord to test his thoughts and to examine his heart and show him if he was guilty of wrongdoing. He purposed not to sin with his lips and to follow the right path (4-5). David asked for help (6-9). He asked God to show His lovingkindness. He then asked for God’s protection from his enemies. David confronted God with the imminent danger of evil men and resolved to remain faithful until death (15).

This prayer is a reminder to every Christian. “All who walk godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.” There are times when you can do nothing except pray. Prayer keeps your focus on faith when fear wants to rule you. David’s goal extended beyond life on earth. Don’t allow fear to dictate your objectives. If so, your goals will be minimalized. Our ultimate goal should be to remain faithful to the end. Then we can say, “As for me, I will see Your face in righteousness; I shall be satisfied when I awake in Your likeness” (15).