

PRAYING PSALM 71

“I will hope continually, and will praise You yet more and more” (Psalm 71:14).

According to the Septuagint this psalm was written by David. He was aging (9,18). He sought the protection of the Lord. From birth he had been sustained by the Lord (6). In youth he had been taught by the Lord (17). He wanted to end well by completing his divine purpose (18). The psalm doesn't outline easily, but here is the idea.

1. THE LORD HELPS ME (1-4). You saved me by your righteousness; now deliver me by it. Be my strong refuge. Deliver me from the hand of the wicked. 2. THE LORD HELPED ME IN THE PAST (5-13). You upheld me from birth. You took me out of my mother's womb. You are my trust from my youth. Do not cast me off in old age. Do not be far from me. 3. THE LORD WILL HELP ME IN THE FUTURE (14-21). I will praise You more and more. I will go in the strength of the Lord. To this day, I declare your wondrous works. When I am old and gray-headed, don't forsake me. You shall revive me again. And bring me up again from the depths of the earth. You shall increase my greatness. 4. THE LORD BE PRAISED FOR HIS HELP (22-24). I will praise you. I will sing to you. I shall talk about you all day long.

Every once in a while it is good to trace the blessings of God from past to present. Thank the Lord for His continual blessings. Praise the Lord for His help in the past. Thank Him for His present help. Then praise Him for future blessings. Remember, what is past, present, and future with us is a continuous present with Him. Remember, His name is I AM.