

## PRAYING PSALM 74

“O God why have You cast us off forever? Why does Your anger smoke against the sheep of Your pasture” (Psalm 74:1).

The background of this psalm is the Babylonian captivity. Asaph, a contemporary of David, lived long before the psalm was written. It was written by one of his descendants or a choir guild named after him.

In this psalm we see four thoughts: 1. CRY FOR HELP (1-2). Why? Why is this happening? Why have you rejected us? Why are you angry? Remember us. 2. CONDITIONS OF HAVOC (3-11). Remember. Lift up your feet. Your enemies are roaring. They raise their banners. They are destroying everything. They have set fire to Your sanctuary. They want to destroy us. There are no signs. There are no prophets. How long? Why do You withdraw Your hand? 3. CONFIDENCE IN HOPE (12-23). In God's ability. In God's covenant. In God's cause.

This psalm is filled with questions. When you pray, bring your questions. Seek God's answers, before you start substituting your own. Do you fear God's anger? Do you fear His rejection? Are you afraid He will forget you? Do you believe He has withdrawn His hand from you? Tell Him. Once you get it out, change your focus to future hope. Remember God's ability. Remind yourself that God won't forget His covenant with you, because He won't forget His covenant with His Son. Reconnect with God's cause. You are still a part of it. Once you get your own fears out of the way, you can concentrate on the faith He promised to give you.