

Title: God my deliverer
Passage: Psalm 5
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Series: Taste

Read Psalm 5

“sticks and stones can break my bones but words can never hurt me”

This is true to a point but my observation is that words can hurt after years
David is dealing with vicious accusation and lies
He wakes up worn out from it, in anguish, groaning, praying

Where do these kinds of attacks come from?
David had enemies - he was a king and a warrior

- He rose to fame by defeating an enemy Goliath
- he spent years running from an enemy king Saul
- Israel was surrounded by enemies

what kind of attacks might have caused him to wake up groaning, mourning, lamenting?

Vs 9 enemies attacks

- Could it have been attacks like that of Absalom, Ahithophel, Shimei?

What kind of attacks cause you to wake up groaning? Words are our most often used weapons.
School yard

- Social media
- Workplace
- Friendly fire: family or church life

David is under attack, has deep anguish, but he as real hope

This is why he prays

- He knows there is a God who answers prayer
- Who will judge
- And he is certain this God is his God

The reason for his hope is because of what he knows God to be like

V4 – 6

God hates evil

These evil people are arrogant, they lie, they are deceitful

None of this can have anything to do with God.
If you bring light into darkness, no more darkness
It is not just evil people stay away from God, which they do

But God is hostile to them.

Words: hate/destroy / detest

But God doesn't just hate evil.

If that was the case, then David knows he is also in trouble.

V8 God offers grace

While “evil cannot enter”

David says “I can come”

Why? Because of God's great love

David knows God's grace for him, and knows because of it, he can call God “my God” and have the confidence to enter into God's presence.
He also knows he needs this grace. He is capable of evil himself and can stray. So he asks of God to “make your way straight”

David prays for God to act

David knows he needs God's help to walk right and he trust God with this work

the Psalm closes with the blessing of “those who love you” “of everyone who takes refuge in you”
this is the hope David is waiting for
we can take refuge in God covers us with his protection as a shield

David prays for judgement on his enemies

he knows he's under attack and facing false accusations

but he also sees the enemy's sins as rebellion against God

this is not just personal to David it's personal to God
See David's request is that

- God will reveal their guilt
- turn their plans on them
- and let them read what they sow

He asked God to deal with the wicked according to their sins.

this Psalm helps us know how to handle personal and overwhelming attack

the format of the prayer is helpful

- plea
- confess who God is
- request
- Thanksgiving

Similar shape to “Our Father”

We need to pray first, before acting, as under pressure we can be led astray.

We can have a hard time following Jesus especially when we are victims of evil attacks
we need to pray for ourselves as well as about the enemy

It's good for us to finish by reminding ourselves, grace is for enemies too

this Psalm only takes us so far
It treats sin and attack seriously

God is serious about justice and obedience
God will deal with evil
it receives God's grace personally
but grace is for enemies too.

David didn't have the opportunity to sit at the feet of
Jesus.

Love your enemies

Following Jesus means we take sin seriously and
that means we take grace seriously.

It is for us, and it is for our enemies

Grace is for enemies too.

The difference between the person who cannot
enter God's presence and the one who can, is not
with God. God judges sin fairly and offers mercy to
all.

How will we relate with God? Will we turn away from
him or will we bow down.

Response/Prayer/Care cards