

Study Questions on Psa 69:1-15--David's Cry for Salvation

1. The references to “water” and “mire” in vv. 1-2 are plainly metaphorical. To what does the metaphor refer? (Hint: consider v. 14.)
2. Throughout the sections where the Psalmist is describing his predicament to God (vv. 1-5, 7-12, 19-21, 26), try to think of correspondences to each verse
 - a. from the life of David;
 - b. from the life of our Lord.
3. Think about the meaning of v. 5. There are several possible approaches.
 - a. How many different meanings can you think of for v. 5? (I've found five.) What can be said for or against each of them, in light of the context?
 - b. The most natural reading is as a confession of personal sin. Is there anything in the context to support this?
 - c. vv. 4, 7, 9 seem to protest the Psalmist's innocence. How could you reconcile these with a confession of sin?
4. In v. 6, why might other believers be confounded and put to shame for David's sake? What does David expect God to do to prevent this?
5. Who are “they that sit in the gate” in v. 12? You might use a concordance or Bible software to look for other references to “in the gate,” or consult a Bible dictionary under “gate.”
6. What is “an acceptable time” in v. 13?
 - a. Do other texts talk about “an acceptable time”? (use center references or the Treasury of Scripture Knowledge, available in most Bible programs)
 - b. What other kind of time could there be? Cf. Isa 61:2.