

Treasure Hunt

- How is Psalm 20 related to Psalm 21?
- When in David's life did he probably compose these Psalms?
- How are Psalms 20-21 like Psalm 18? How do they differ?
- What common means does David use to organize these Psalms?
- What three steps in 2 Chronicles 20 reflect what happens in Psalms 20-21?
- How do different kinds of people react to God's face?
- What is the relation between the king's face in 21:9 and the Lord's face?
- What does "Aijeleth Shahar" mean, and how is it appropriate to this Psalm?

Chiasm in Psalms 15-24

Qualifications to dwell with God	15	24 (+ the King)	
Confidence	16 thou wilt show me the path of life	23 The Lord is my Shepherd	
Laments	17	22	
Thanksgiving	18 request + answer	20 (request) + 21 (answer)	
God's revelation	19 (cf. Psalms 15 and 24)		

20:1 The LORD **hear** thee
in the day of trouble;
the name of the God of
Jacob **defend** thee;
2 **Send** thee help from the
sanctuary,
and **strengthen** thee out
of Zion;
3 **Remember** all thy
offerings,
and **accept** thy burnt
sacrifice; Selah.
4 **Grant** thee according to
thine own heart,
and **fulfil** all thy counsel.
...
9 **Save**, LORD: let the king
hear us when we call.

21:2 Thou **hast given** him his heart's
desire,
and **hast not withholden** the request
of his lips. Selah.
3 For thou **preventest** him with the
blessings of goodness:
thou **settest** a crown of pure gold on
his head.
4 **He asked life of thee, and thou**
gavest it him, even length of days for
ever and ever.
5 His glory *is* great in **thy salvation**:
honour and majesty **hast thou laid**
upon him.
6 For thou **hast made him most**
blessed for ever:
thou **hast made him exceeding glad**
with thy countenance

Psalm 21 and David's History

2 Samuel

11:1-27, David's sin with Bathsheba

12:1-12, Nathan's rebuke: "9 thou hast killed Uriah the Hittite with the sword, ... and hast slain him with the sword of the children of **Ammon**. 10 Now therefore the sword shall never depart from thine house..."

12:13-25, David repents, first child dies, Solomon born

12:27-28, Joab summons David to Rabbah of **Ammon**

12:29-31, David conquers Rabbah: "30 And he took **their king's crown** from off his head, the weight whereof was a **talent of gold** with the precious stones: and it was set **on David's head**. ... 31 And he brought forth the people that were therein, ... and made them pass **through the brickkiln**: ...

Psalms

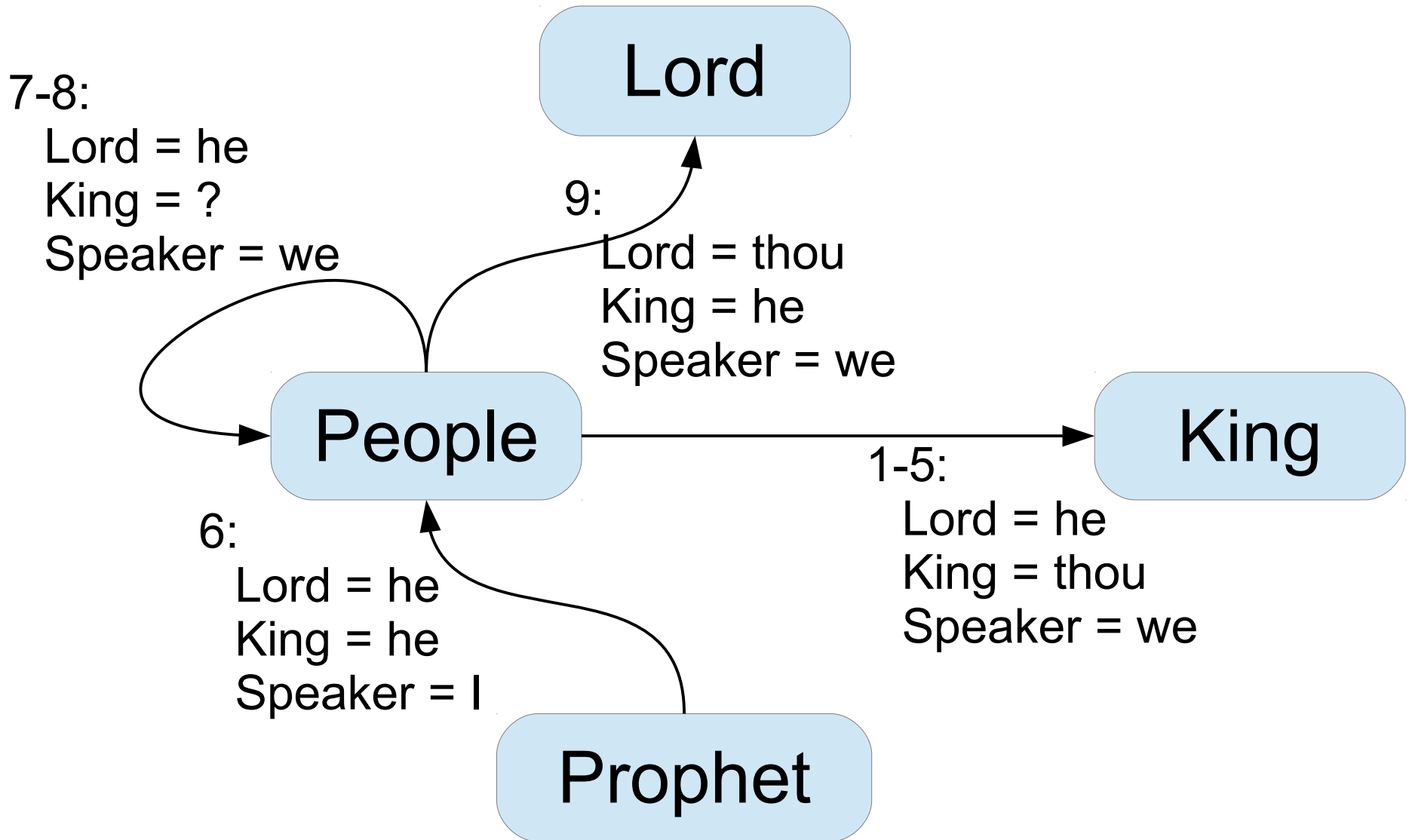
20:1 The LORD hear thee in the day of trouble; the name of the God of Jacob defend thee;

21:3 **thou settest a crown of pure gold on his head.**

21:9 Thou shalt make them as **a fiery oven** in the time of thine anger: the LORD shall swallow them up in his wrath, and the **fire** shall devour them.

Psalm 20: Prayer before Battle

Who speaks to Whom?



Verses on Psalm 20

v. 3, “thy offerings ... thy burnt sacrifice”: 1Sa 10:8 And thou shalt go down before me to Gilgal; and, behold, I will come down unto thee, to offer burnt offerings, *and* to sacrifice sacrifices of peace offerings: seven days shalt thou tarry, till I come to thee, and shew thee what thou shalt do.

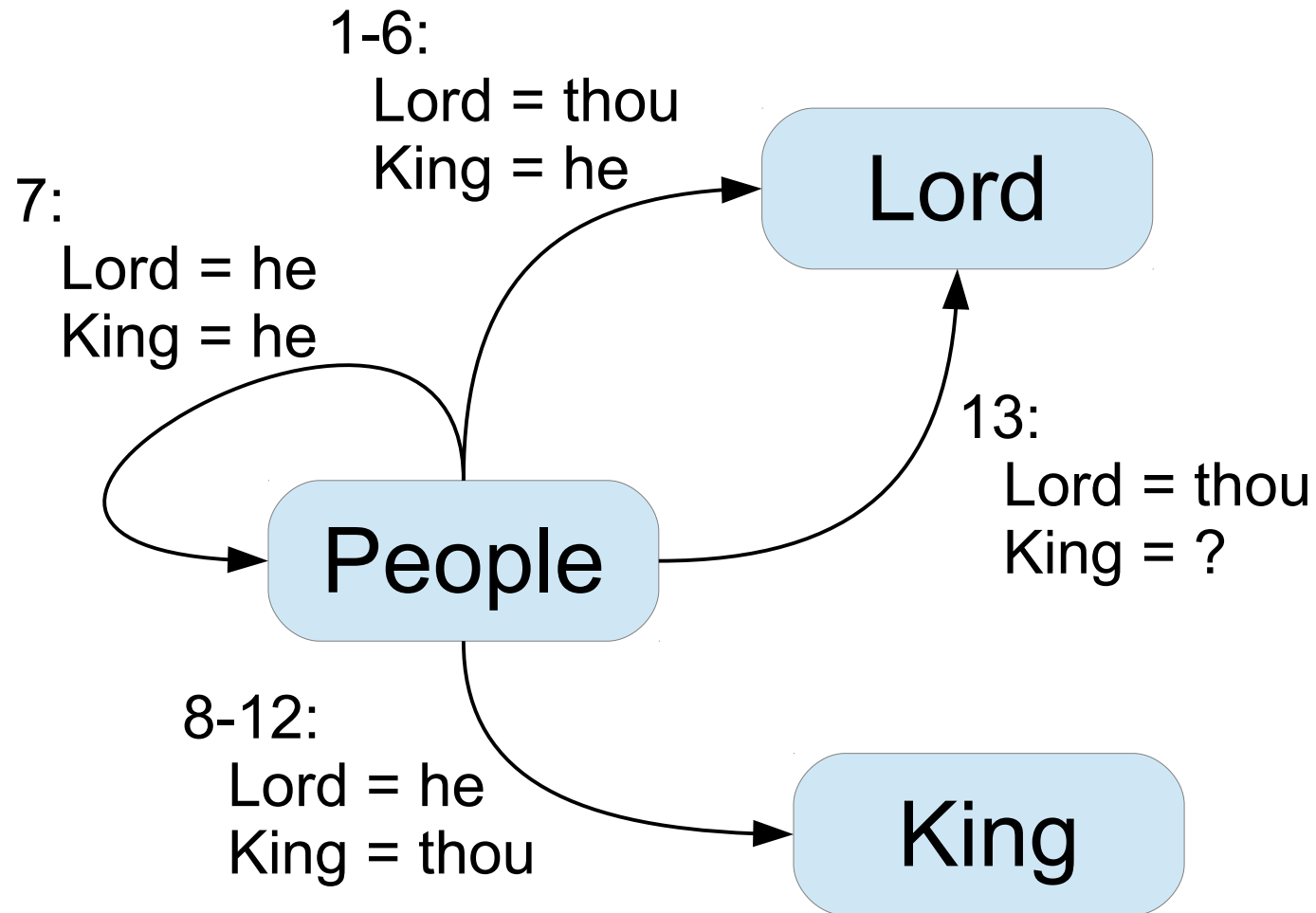
v. 6, “now I know...”: 2Ch 20:3 And Jehoshaphat feared, and set himself to seek the LORD, and proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah. 4 And Judah gathered themselves together, to ask *help* of the LORD: even out of all the cities of Judah they came to seek the LORD. 5 And Jehoshaphat stood in the congregation of Judah and Jerusalem, in the house of the LORD, before the new court, 6 And said, O LORD God of our fathers, *art* not thou God in heaven? and rulest *not* thou over all the kingdoms of the heathen? and in thine hand *is there not* power and might, so that none is able to withstand thee?

2Ch 20:14 Then upon Jahaziel the son of Zechariah, the son of Benaiah, the son of Jeiel, the son of Mattaniah, a Levite of the sons of Asaph, came the Spirit of the LORD in the midst of the congregation; 15 And he said, Harken ye, all Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem, and thou king Jehoshaphat, Thus saith the LORD unto you, Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle *is* not yours, but God's.

(after victory:) 2Ch 20:28 And they came to Jerusalem with psalteries and harps and trumpets unto the house of the LORD.

v. 9. “Save Lord, let the king hear us...”: 1Ti 2:1 I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, *and* giving of thanks, be made for all men; 2 For kings, and *for* all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.

Psalm 21: Praise After Battle



Seeking (or Avoiding) God's Face (פנים Strong 6440)

Psa 16:11 Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in **thy presence** *is* fulness of joy; at thy right hand *there are* pleasures for evermore.

Psa 17:15 As for me, I will behold **thy face** in righteousness: I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with thy likeness.

Psa 24:6 This *is* the generation of ~~them~~ that seek him; [those] that seek **thy face**, Θ are Jacob. Selah.

But

Gen 3:8 Adam and his wife hid themselves from the **presence** of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden.

Isa 30:11 cause the Holy One of Israel to cease from before us [from our **face**].