

Treasure Hunt

- What is the consistent theme of Psalms 34-41?
- To what earlier group of Psalms do they correspond?
- The Psalm praises God for delivering David from his fears. What were they?
- Who are the “humble” of v. 2, the “saints” of v. 9, and the “children” of v. 11?
- About what sin does David warn his followers, and why?
- Whose cry does the Lord hear in v. 17, and what leads them to cry out?
- Vv. 15-22 promise God’s deliverance to the “righteous.” Was David righteous? How could he pray this?
- Please explain why Peter uses Psalm 34 so much in 1 Peter.

Psalms of the Sufferer

Book 1: 1-41

1-2: Opening

3-14: Strength in **Weakness**

3-7: Laments of the Tired

8: **Hymn**: Victory of Babes & Sucklings

9-14: Laments of the Poor

15-24: **Dwelling** with God

15: Keep the Law to dwell with God

19: **Hymn**: 2nd Torah Psalm

24: Keep the law to dwell with God

25: Acrostic of Humble Worship

26-32: Regal **Dwellingplace** Psalms

26-28: God's House for the Righteous

29: The Lord Enthroned on the Flood

30-32: God's Shelter for the Penitent

33: **Hymn**: Creation, Nations, Salvation

34-41: Psalms of the **Sufferer**

34-37: The Innocent Sufferer

38-41: The Guilty Sufferer

David's Flight from Saul, 1 Sam 21-22

1Sa 21:1 Then came David to Nob to Ahimelech the priest: and Ahimelech was afraid at the meeting of David, and said unto him, **Why art thou alone**, and no man with thee? 2 And David said unto Ahimelech the priest, **The king hath commanded me a business**, and hath said unto me, Let no man know any thing of the business whereabout I send thee, and what I have commanded thee: and I have appointed *my* servants to such and such a place.

1Sa 21:10 And David arose, and fled that day for fear of Saul, and went to Achish the king of Gath. 11 And the servants of Achish said unto him, *Is not this David the king of the land?* did they not sing one to another of him in dances, saying, Saul hath slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands? 12 And David laid up these words in his heart, and was **sore afraid** of Achish the king of Gath.

1Sa 21:13 And **he changed his behaviour before them**, and feigned himself mad in their hands, and scrabbled on the doors of the gate, and let his spittle fall down upon his beard.

1Sa 22:1 David therefore departed thence, and escaped to the cave Adullam: and when his brethren and all his father's house heard *it*, they went down thither to him. 2 And every one *that was* in distress, and every one *that was* in debt, and every one *that was* discontented, gathered themselves unto him; and he became a captain over them: and there were with him about four hundred men.

Structure of Psalm 34

Psalm 34, God Delivers those who Trust in Him

1-3: **Declaration** of Praise
2 the **humble** shall hear

4-7: Personal **Cause** for Praise
Key words:
David **seeks** and **fears** the Lord
The Lord **delivers** David

8-14: **Exhortation** to the humble
Key words: **trust**, **fear**, **seek**

15-22: Generic **Cause** for Praise
Key words:
The Lord **delivers** the **righteous**

Helpful References

v. 12 What man *is he that* desireth life, *and loveth many days*, that he may see good?

Ps 39:4 LORD, **make me to know mine end, and the measure of my days**, what *it is; that* I may know how frail I *am*. 5 Behold, thou hast made **my days as an handbreadth**; and **mine age is as nothing** before thee: verily every man at his best state *is* altogether vanity. ... 8 Deliver me from all **my transgressions**: ... 11 When thou with rebukes dost correct man for **iniquity**, thou makest his beauty to consume away like a moth: surely every man *is* vanity.

v. 15 **The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous**, and his ears *are open* unto their cry.

Psa 33:18 Behold, **the eye of the LORD is upon them that fear him**, upon them that hope in his mercy; 19 To deliver their soul from death, and to keep them alive in famine.

v. 16 The **face of the LORD is against them** that do evil, to **cut off** the remembrance of them from the earth.

Lev 26:17 I will **set my face against you**, and **ye shall be slain** before your enemies: they that hate you shall reign over you; and ye shall flee when none pursueth you. (cf. 17:10; 20:3, 5-6)

v. 17 **they cry**, and **the LORD heareth** ...

Lev 26:40 **If they shall confess** their iniquity, and the iniquity of their fathers, with their trespass which they trespassed against me, and that also they have walked contrary unto me; ... 42 **Then will I remember** my covenant with Jacob, and also my covenant with Isaac, and also my covenant with Abraham will I remember; and I will remember the land.

Helpful References (2)

vv. 4-7 The Lord delivers those who **trust** in him

vv. 15-22 The Lord delivers the **righteous**

Gen 15:6 And he **believed** in the LORD; and he counted it to him for **righteousness**.

v. 20 He keepeth all his bones: not one of them is broken.

Joh 19:36 For these things were done, that the scripture should be fulfilled, A bone of him shall not be broken.

Psalm 34 and 1 Peter

1 Peter	Psalm 34
<p>2:3 If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious. 4 To whom coming, <i>as unto</i> a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, <i>and</i> precious,</p>	<p>8 O taste and see that the LORD is good [LXX gracious]: blessed <i>is</i> the man <i>that</i> trusteth in him. 5 They looked unto him [LXX came to him], and were lightened: and their faces were not ashamed.</p>
<p>2:21 For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps: 22 Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth: 3:8 Finally, <i>be</i> ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, <i>be</i> pitiful, <i>be</i> courteous: 9 Not rendering evil for evil, or railing for railing: but contrariwise blessing; knowing that ye are thereunto called, that ye should inherit a blessing.</p>	<p>13 Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile.</p>
<p>3:10 For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile: 11 Let him eschew evil, and do good; let him seek peace, and ensue it. 12 For the eyes of the Lord <i>are</i> over the righteous, and his ears <i>are open</i> unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord <i>is</i> against them that do evil.</p>	<p>12 What man <i>is he that</i> desireth life, <i>and</i> loveth <i>many</i> days, that he may see good? 13 Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile. 14 Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it. 15 The eyes of the LORD <i>are</i> upon the righteous, and his ears <i>are open</i> unto their cry. 16 The face of the LORD <i>is</i> against them that do evil, to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth.</p>

Why does Peter focus on Psalm 34?

1Pe 1:6 ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, **ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations:**

1Pe 2:19 For this *is* thankworthy, if a man for conscience toward God endure grief, **suffering wrongfully.**

1Pe 3:14 But and if ye **suffer for righteousness' sake**, happy *are ye*: and be not afraid of their terror, neither be troubled;
15 But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and *be* ready always to *give* an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:

1Pe 4:12 Beloved, think it not strange concerning the **fiery trial** which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you: 13 But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy.