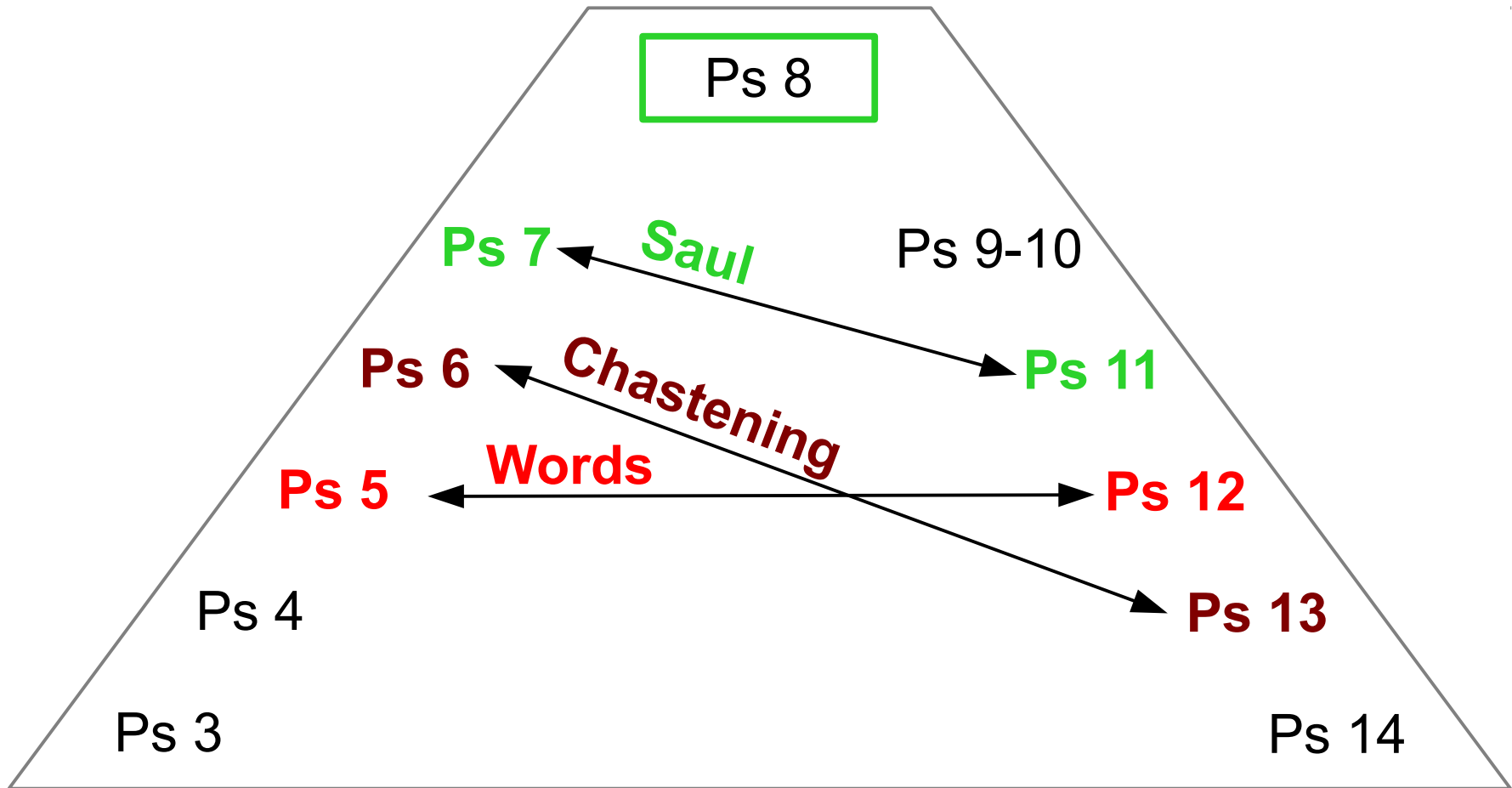


# Treasure Hunt

- What words and themes do Psalms 7 and 11 have in common?
- Who is “Cush the Benjamite,” and why does the title give him this name?
- With what event in David’s life is each associated? Why?
- How do these events make the first verse of each psalm appropriate?
- What is the literal meaning of 7:10a?
- Why was it right for David to flee from Saul in 1 Samuel 23, but not in 1 Samuel 26?
- Why does David take comfort that “The Lord’s throne is in heaven” (11:4)?
- Why does David emphasize God’s righteousness in these two psalms?

# The Poetic Pyramid of Ps 3-14

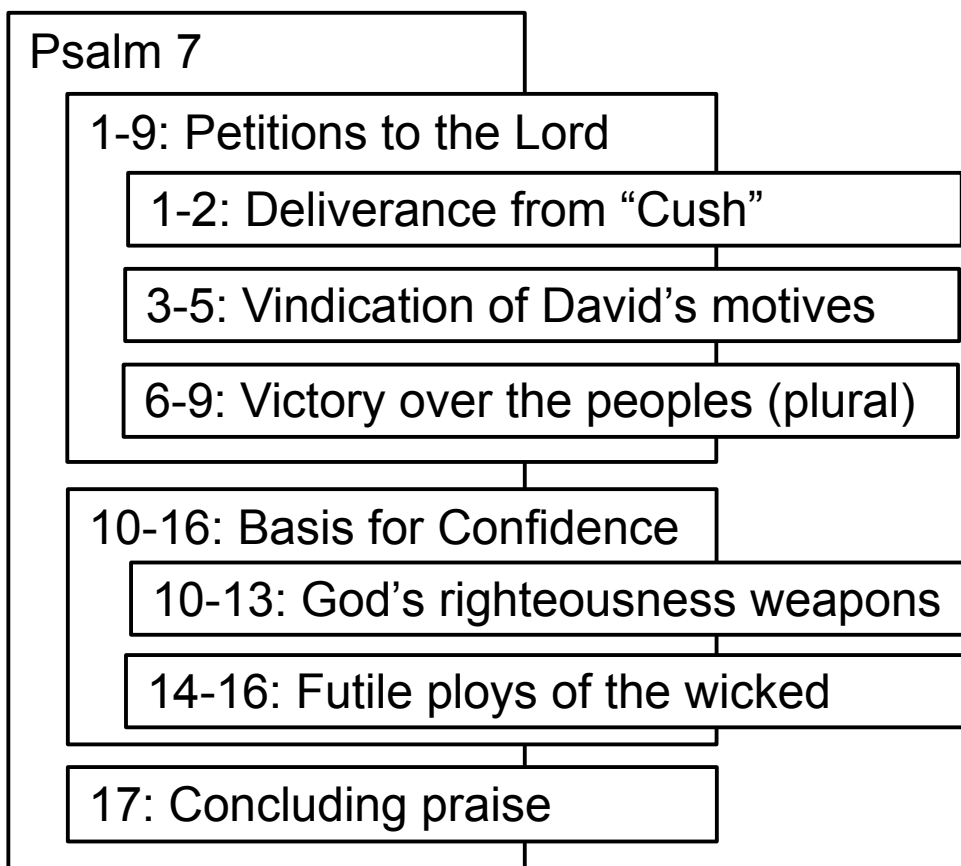


# Parallels between Psalms 7 and 57

Psalm 7	Psalm 57
1 concerning the words of Cush the Benjamite	1 when he fled from Saul in the cave
2 Lest he tear my soul like a <b>lion</b> , rending it in pieces, while there is none to deliver.	4 My soul is among <b>lions</b> :
5 Let the enemy persecute my soul, and take it; yea, let him tread down my life upon the earth, and lay <b>mine honour כבודי</b> in the dust. Selah.	8 Awake up, <b>my glory כבודי</b> ; awake, psaltery and harp: I myself will awake early.
6 <b>Arise</b> , O LORD, in thine anger, <b>lift up thyself</b>	5, 11 <b>Be thou exalted</b> , O God, above the heavens; let thy glory be <b>above</b> all the earth.
9 Oh let the wickedness of the wicked <b>come to an end גמר</b> ; but establish the just: for the righteous God trieth the hearts and reins.	2 I will cry ... unto God that <b>performeth גמר</b> all things for me.
15 <b>He made a pit, and digged it, and is fallen into the ditch which he made.</b>	6 ... <b>they have digged a pit before me, into the midst whereof they are fallen themselves.</b> Selah.
17 I ... will sing praise to the name of the LORD <b>most high.</b>	2 I will cry unto God <b>most high</b> ;

Alexander Maclaren, *The Life of David as Reflected in his Psalms*. London: Hodder and Stoughton, 1903.

# Structure of Psalm 7



## 7:3 iniquity in my hands

1Sa 24:10 Behold, this day thine eyes have seen how that the LORD had delivered thee to day into **mine hand** in the cave: and some bade me kill thee: but mine eye spared thee; and I said, I will not put forth **mine hand** against my lord; for he is the LORD'S anointed. 11 Moreover, my father, see, yea, see the skirt of thy robe in **my hand**: for in that I cut off the skirt of thy robe, and killed thee not, know thou and see that there is neither evil nor transgression in **mine hand**, and I have not sinned against thee; yet thou huntest my soul to take it. 12 **The LORD judge between me and thee**, and the LORD avenge me of thee: but **mine hand** shall not be upon thee. 13 As saith the proverb of the ancients, Wickedness proceedeth from the wicked: but **mine hand** shall not be upon thee. 14 After whom is the king of Israel come out? after whom dost thou pursue? after a dead dog, after a flea. 15 **The LORD therefore be judge, and judge between me and thee**, and see, and plead my cause, and deliver me out of thine hand.

# Gittith = Winepresses

Psalms for the feast of Tabernacles:

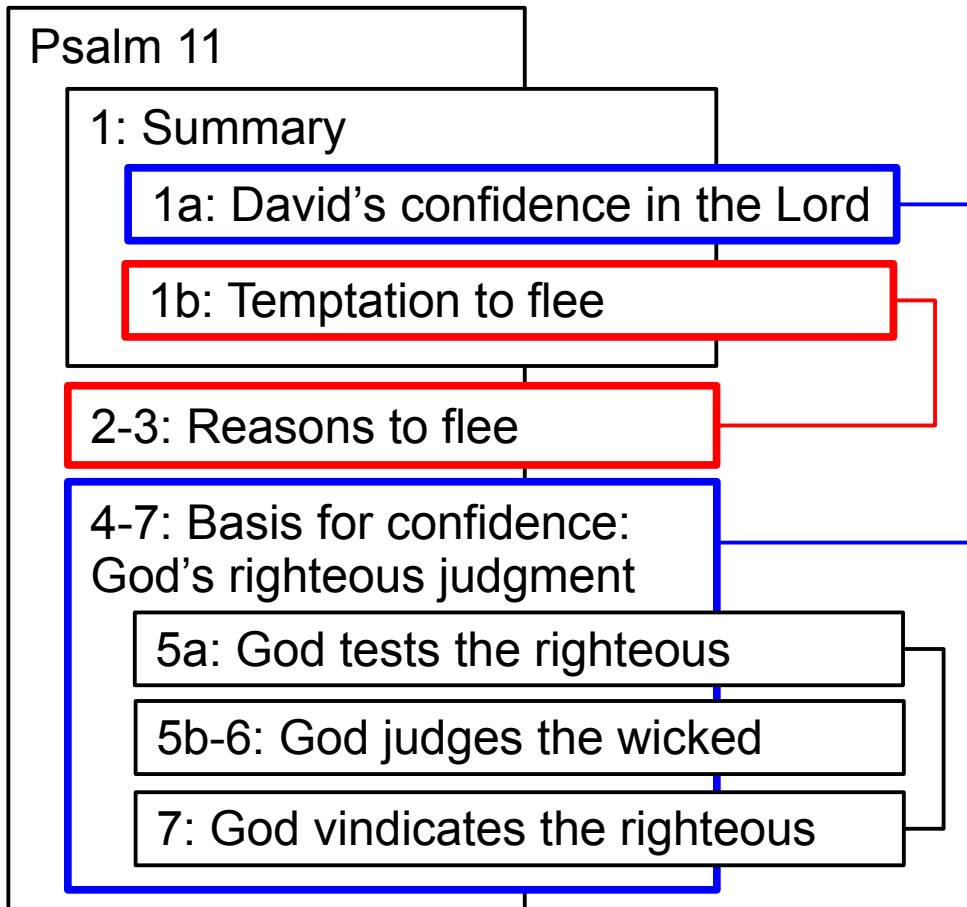
- 7:5 “tread down”
- 80:8 “thou has brought a vine out of Egypt”
- 83:13 “make them ... as the stubble ...”

Judgment on God’s enemies:

Isa 63:3 I have trodden the winepress alone; and of the people *there* was none with me: for I will tread them in mine anger, and trample them in my fury; and their blood shall be sprinkled upon my garments, and I will stain all my raiment. 4 For the day of vengeance *is* in mine heart, and the year of my redeemed is come.

Summary: *David asks the Lord to vindicate his righteousness (vv. 3-5) while judging his unjust accuser (1-2) and establishing his authority over the peoples (6-5), confident that the Lord’s weapons will overpower the adversary’s clumsy attacks(10-16) and enable him to praise the Lord’s righteousness (17).*

# Structure of Psalm 11



## 11:1 Flee as a bird

1Sa 26:20 Now therefore, let not my blood fall to the earth before the face of the LORD: for the king of Israel is come out to seek a flea, **as when one doth hunt a partridge in the mountains.**

## Biblical commands to flee

Gen 19:17 And it came to pass, when [the angels] had brought them [Lot and his daughters] forth abroad, that he said, **Escape for thy life;** look not behind thee, neither stay thou in all the plain; escape to the mountain, lest thou be consumed.

Mat 24:16 Then let them which be in Judaea **flee into the mountains:**

# Keilah (1 Sam 23) and Hachilah (1 Sam 26)

	1 Sam 23	1 Sam 25-26 ~ Psalm 11
David protects local people	5 So David and his men went to Keilah, and fought with the Philistines, ... So David <b>saved the inhabitants of Keilah.</b>	25:15 But the men were very good unto us, ... 16 <b>They were a wall unto us</b> both by night and day, all the while we were with them keeping the sheep.
Someone betrays David to Saul	7 And <b>it was told Saul</b> that David was come to Keilah. And Saul said, God hath delivered him into mine hand;	26:1 And <b>the Ziphites came unto Saul</b> to Gibeah, saying, Doth not David hide himself in the hill of Hachilah, which is before Jeshimon?
Saul comes against David	8 And <b>Saul</b> called all the people together to war, <b>to go down to Keilah</b> , to besiege David and his men.	26:2 <b>Then Saul arose</b> , and went down to the wilderness of Ziph, having three thousand chosen men of Israel with him, to seek David in the wilderness of Ziph.
David's contrasting responses	1Sa 23:13 Then David and his men, which were about six hundred, <b>arose and departed</b> out of Keilah, ... 14 And David abode in the wilderness in strong holds, and remained <b>in a mountain</b> in the wilderness of Ziph.	26:4 David therefore sent out spies, and understood that Saul was come in very deed. 5 And David arose, and came to the place where Saul had pitched: and David beheld the place where Saul lay, ...

*The difference:* 1Sa 23:9 And David knew that Saul secretly practised mischief against him; and he said to Abiathar the priest, Bring hither the ephod. 10 Then said David, .... 11 Will the men of Keilah deliver me up into his hand? will Saul come down, as thy servant hath heard? ... And the LORD said, He will come down. 12 ... They will deliver *thee* up.

# 11:4 The LORD is in his holy temple, the LORD'S throne is in heaven

The effect of Saul's persecution:

1Sa 26:19 Now therefore, I pray thee, let my lord the king hear the words of his servant. If the LORD have stirred thee up against me, let him accept an offering: but if they be the children of men, cursed be they before the LORD; **for they have driven me out this day from abiding in the inheritance of the LORD, saying, Go, serve other gods.**

Where God really is:

Psa 18:6 In my distress I called upon the LORD, and cried unto my God: he heard my voice out of **his temple**, and my cry came before him, even into his ears.

Psa 2:4 **He that sitteth in the heavens** shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision.

*Summary: In spite of friends who urge him to flee through fear of the wicked (1b-3), David confidently takes refuge in God (1a), trusting him for protection (5b-6) and vindication (5a, 7).*