

Psalm [9]
Praise to God for Deliverance
To the Chief Musician Upon Muth-labben
A Psalm of David.

Background Scriptures: The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgement. [II Peter 2:9]

Division of Books

Book I (1-41) Book II (42-72) Book III (73-89) Book IV (90-106) Book V (107-150)

Book I (41:13) Book II (72:19) Book III (89:52) Book IV (106:48) Book V (150:1-6)

Note: Quick note about the above outline/divisions. **(1)** from ancient times, the 150 psalms were organized into these five **(5)** books, with each book having its own benediction (indicated in above parentheses). Psalm 150 is not only the last Psalm and a benediction for Book 5, but also a doxology for the entire Psalter.

Purpose: The psalms, as Spirit-inspired prayers and praises, were written, generally speaking, to express the deep inner emotions of the human heart in relation to God. **(1)** Many were written as prayers to God, expressing **(a)** trust, love, adoration, thanksgiving, praise and longing for close fellowship; **(b)** discouragement, deep distress, fear, anxiety, humiliation, and a cry for deliverance, healing or vindication.

(2) Others were written as songs expressing praise, thanksgiving and adoration for who God is and for the great things He has done. **(3)** Some psalms contain important Messianic sections that were fulfilled in their fullest meaning in Jesus Christ.

[9:1-5]

Note: David speaks as if the events recorded here have already happened—a stylistic feature of prophecy in the Psalms. He is so certain the events will occur that he speaks of them as if they have already been fulfilled (vs. 15-16). At the heart of every believer's relationship with God is the requirement of praise.

“I will praise Thee, O Lord, with my whole heart; I will show forth all Thy marvelous works. I will be glad and rejoice in Thee: I will sing praise to Thy name, O thou Most High.” (vs. 1-2).

Importance of praise: The Bible often exhorts God's people to praise the Lord. The writers of the **O.T.** used three basic words to call Israelites to praise God: the word Barak (can also be translated “bless”); the word halal (from which “hallelujah,” meaning “praise the Lord,” comes); and the word yadah (sometimes translated as “give thanks”).

[9:6-8]

Note: The Psalmist thanks and praises the Lord because He will one day fully deliver those who seek him (**vs. 8-14**) and will bring judgment against His enemies. In order to prevent discouragement and despair at the apparent success of evil in the world, God's people must firmly believe and confess that the Lord will one day vindicate those who, in spite of affliction, persevere against all who would destroy their faith in God.

N.T. believers may apply these verses to the enemies of the Lord and His church. Throughout the **N.T.** age a conflict exists between the forces of evil and the forces of righteousness. Faithful believers will be opposed by Satan, the world and false believers within the church (**II Timothy 3:12**).

[9:9-20]

Note: The needy and the afflicted among God's people are objects of His special care (**vs. 9-10,12**). They have the promise that God will not forsake them (**vs.10**), that He will remember their prayers (**vs.12**), and that their hopes will eventually be realized (**vs.18**).

{Deeper Study}

This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him, and saved him out of all his troubles. The righteous cry, and the Lord Heareth, and Delivereth them out of all their troubles [Psalm 34:6,17]

Final Thought: *Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the Lord delivereth him out of them all* [Psalm 34:19].