

Bible Study Psalm 20 A Prayer of faith in Dire Circumstances

Psalm 20 was written by Israel's King David, although he may have written it before he became king. David had great respect for the Lord's anointed king refusing to lift his hand against king Saul in 1 Samuel 24 when the opportunity arose.

Read Psalm 20

Psalm 20 is a prayer in three parts, verses 1 to 5, verses 6 to 8 and finishing with verse 9

1. Verse 1 indicates that the prayer was in response to a particular situation or distress. What do you think the context of psalm 20 is? Verses 5 and 7 may be helpful.

2. What kind of prayer are verses 1 to 5?

3. Who do you think is praying the prayer and what kinds of things are being requested in verses 1 to 5?

4. Who is being prayed for in verses 1 to 5? Is it an individual or a group and how do you know?

5. From the personal perspective of those praying, what do think is the reason for the prayers of verses 1 to 5, and in whom are those praying trusting in on a human level and ultimately ?

6. Verses 6 to 8 appear to answer verses 1 to 5. Who do you think is speaking now?

7. In these verses a greater confidence and assurance is expressed. In who does the speaker in verses 6 to 8 trust in? and what in these verses indicates they have more confidence and certainty that their prayers will be fulfilled?

8. Who is speaking in the final words in verse 9?

9. What is being requested in the final prayer in verse 9?

From the enthusiasm of the prayers in verses 1 to 5 and their final prayer in verse 9 it appears they are hugely dependant on their anointed king. No human king could fulfil all they have invested in their king, except the one promised true final anointed king to which all the anointed kings of Israel foreshadowed. The Lord Jesus Christ alone has fulfilled all the needs of God's people.

Read 2 Corinthians 1:20.

10. What does this verse say about the one in whom all people can put their trust in completely?

What difference does it make to your life?