

Fear, Faith, and Tears.

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Psalms 52-60 are “days in the life of David.”

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He trusted the Lord.

There was no safe place to turn to except in the shelter and presence and promise of God.

Fear, Faith, and Tears.

Psalm 52:8-9 ⁸ But I am like a flourishing olive tree in the house of God;^a I trust in God's faithful love forever and ever. ⁹ I will praise You forever for what You have done. In the presence of Your faithful people, I will put my hope in Your name, for it is good.

Psalm 54:4 ⁴ God is my helper; the Lord is the sustainer of my life.¹

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Psalm 55:16-17 ¹⁶ But I call to God, and the LORD will save me. ¹⁷ I complain and groan morning, noon, and night, and He hears my voice.

Psalm 56:10-11 ¹⁰ In God, whose word I praise, in the LORD, whose word I praise, ¹¹ in God I trust; I will not fear. What can man do to me?

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Psalm 57:7-11 ⁷ My heart is confident, God,
my heart is confident. I will sing; I will sing
praises. ⁸ Wake up, my soul! ¹ Wake up, harp
and lyre! I will wake up the dawn. ⁹ I will
praise You, Lord, among the peoples; I will
sing praises to You among the nations. ¹⁰
For Your faithful love is as high as the
heavens; Your faithfulness reaches to the
clouds.^a ¹¹ God, be exalted above the
heavens; let Your glory be over the whole
earth.^a

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Psalm 58:10-11 ¹⁰ The righteous will
rejoice when he sees the retribution;^a he will
wash his feet in the blood of the wicked. ¹¹
Then people will say, "Yes, there is a reward
for the righteous! There is a God who judges
on earth!"

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Psalm 59:16-17 ¹⁶ But I will sing of Your strength and will joyfully proclaim Your faithful love in the morning.^a For You have been a stronghold for me, a refuge in my day of trouble. ¹⁷ To You, my strength, I sing praises, because God is my stronghold-- my faithful God.

Psalm 60:12 ¹² With God we will perform valiantly;^a He will trample our foes.

Fear, Faith, and Tears.

David's life as a flourishing olive tree...



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David's life as a flourishing olive tree...

shows us how

God's faithful love

and grace

overcomes all failures

and is the only reason for any successes.

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CSB Psalm 56:1

For the choir director:

according to "A Silent Dove Far Away."

(according to Jonath-Elem-Rehokim)

A Davidic Miktam.

When the Philistines seized him in Gath.

(1 Samuel 21:12-13)

Fear, Faith, and Tears.

Dove - defenselessness and innocence.

Far away - from home

Silence – no one David could talk to who could help him.

Fear, Faith, and Tears.

URGENT PLEA: ¹ Be gracious to me, God,

THE PROBLEM: for man tramples me; he fights and oppresses me all day long. ² My adversaries trample me all day, for many arrogantly fight against me.

GREAT FAITH IN THE MIDST OF FEAR:

³ When I am afraid, I will trust in You. ⁴ In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I will not fear. What can man do to me?

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THE PROBLEM: ⁵ They twist my words all day long; all their thoughts are against me for evil. ⁶ They stir up strife, they lurk; they watch my steps while they wait to take my life.

TRUSTING GOD'S JUDGMENT: ⁷ Will they escape in spite of such sin? God, bring down the nations in wrath. ⁸ You Yourself have recorded my wanderings. Put my tears in Your bottle. Are they not in Your records? ⁹ Then my enemies will retreat on the day when I call.

Fear, Faith, and Tears.

GREAT FAITH IN THE MIDST OF FEAR: This I know: God is for me. ¹⁰ In God, whose word I praise, in the LORD, whose word I praise, ¹¹ in God I trust; I will not fear. What can man do to me?

OBEDIENCE AND THANKSGIVING:

¹² I am obligated by vows to You, God; I will make my thank offerings to You. ¹³ For You delivered me from death, even my feet from stumbling, to walk before God in the light of life.

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URGENT PLEA: Be gracious to me, God ...

Hebrew verb: hanan - be merciful , be gracious,
show favor to me.

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THE PROBLEM: David's enemies want to see him dead.

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Hebrew verb: hanan - be merciful , be gracious, show favor to me.

THE PROBLEM: David's enemies want to see him dead.

GREAT FAITH IN THE MIDST OF FEAR : “ I am afraid! I do trust! I am not afraid.”

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Nowhere else in all of Scripture:

“In God, whose word I praise.”

Hebrew - dabar - God's declaration, His statements, the promises He has made.

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TRUSTING GOD'S JUDGEMENT:

Asks God to remember enemies' offenses

Psalm 56:7-9 Will they escape in spite of such sin? God, bring down the nations in wrath. ⁸ You Yourself have recorded my wanderings. Put my tears in Your bottle. Are they not in Your records? ⁹ Then my enemies will retreat on the day when I call.

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TRUSTING GOD'S JUDGEMENT:

God knows our sufferings.

God keeps a record of wicked behavior against us.

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Wanderings - tossings, misery, and lament.

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Wanderings - tossings, misery, and lament.

David urged God to store up all his tears – as the record, the evidence of the wrongdoings of the wicked against him.

God *cares about* and *counts* and *keeps* our tears.

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Bottle - big leather bag used to carry milk, water or wine.

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Bottle - big leather bag used to carry milk, water or wine.

Water in the desert is not to be wasted. Neither are our tears.

James 1:2-4 Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

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Psalm 56:9b This I know: God is for me.

ci – elohim – li - li : ‘for me’

God is my God.

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Song of Solomon 6:3 I am my beloved's, and my beloved is mine

ve'ani le - dodi, ve dodi – li

These are words of love and belonging and devotion.

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¹² I am obligated by vows to You, God; I will make my thank offerings to You. ¹³ For You delivered me from death, even my feet from stumbling, to walk before God in the light of life.

When we have faith in the midst of fear, we will walk with the Lord.