

PSALM 69

Play the Melody 

For the director of music. To the tune of "Lilies." Of David.

Strasbourg, 1539 / Geneva, 1551



1. Save me, O God! The wa-ters rise and leap:
up to my neck the roar-ing floods sur-round me.
There is no foot-hold, dead-ly dan-gers hound me.
I've come in- to the wa-ters of the deep.
I am en-gulfed by floods for me too great;
my throat is parched, I'm wea-ry with my cry-ing.
My eyes grow dim as for my God I wait.
Come to my res-cue, LORD, and heed my sigh-ing.

2. More *numerous* than the *hairs* upon my head
are *those who* without *any cause* reject me,
those *enemies* who *constantly* afflict me
and *whose malicious treachery* I dread.
Must *I* restore now *what I* did not steal?
I know I've done the *things You* have forbidden.
O God, my folly I did not conceal;
from *You* my wrongs and *misdeeds* are not hidden.

3. May *those who put in You their hope and trust not through my doing be disgraced and slandered. May they, O LORD, not be to shame surrendered because I've been unfaithful or unjust. O God of Israel, taunts and shame I've borne, and for Your sake I am to friend and brother a stranger whom they disavow and scorn, an alien to the sons of my own mother.*

4. LORD, *for Your house am I consumed with zeal; taunts meant for You have now on me descended. I weep and fast. By none I am defended; deep are the shame and sorrow that I feel. I put on sackcloth, for my grief is great, but people laugh at me and keep on sneering. I am the talk of idlers at the gate, the song of drunkards revelling and jeering.*

5. But *though they mock, O LORD, to You I pray; at Your own time, O God my Helper, hear me. In Your great love and faithfulness be near me, and in the mire let me not sink away. Deliver me from waters dark and deep, from those who hate me. God, show me Your favour and draw me from the current's mighty sweep. Let death not close its mouth on me, O Saviour.*

6. Out of the goodness of Your steadfast love, LORD, *turn to me, with Your great mercy bless me. Do not conceal Your face when foes oppress me; in all my troubles, hear me from above. Make haste to answer me, do not delay. Come, rescue me, redeem Your faithful servant. Save me from those who seek me as their prey, who hate me with a hatred fierce and fervent.*

Psalm 69

7. You know of all the scorn and shame I bear;
LORD, You have seen how en-e-mies dis-grace me,
how with their con-stant in-sults they a-base me.
Taunts broke my heart, and deep is my de-spair.
I looked for pit-y, but I found de-ceit,
for com-fort-ers, but I saw them de-sert me.
They gave me bit-ter gall as food to eat
and vin-e-gar as drink when I was thirst-y.

8. *At their own table let my foes be trapped, ensnared when for their feasting they assemble. Their eyes be darkened so that they will stumble; from shaking limbs let all their strength be sapped. Pour out Your fury, let it not abate, and by Your wrath let them be overtaken. Let their encampments be left desolate; let all their tents be utterly forsaken.*

9. They *persecute* those *wounded* by Your hand,
and *talk of* those whose *pains and sorrows* please them.
Charge *them with crime on crime*; *do not release* them,
nor *let them freed from guilt before You* stand.
LORD, *from the book of life blot out* their names;
let *none of them be in Your scroll* recorded.
Do not include them with those free from blame;
let *good and evil justly be rewarded*.
10. I *am in pain*, great *is my misery*;
O *God, protect me, sending Your salvation*.
Then *I will praise Your name with jubilation*
and *give You thanks*. To *You all glory* be.
More *than an ox or bull as sacrifice*,
my *song of praise will please my God and Saviour*.
His *captive people He will not despise*;
He *hears the needy, showing them His favour*.
11. Let *heaven and earth praise Him with grateful songs*,
the *seas and all that stirs in them adore Him*;
let *all creation shout with joy before Him*:
God *will save Zion. Praise to Him belongs*.
All *Judah's cities will the LORD rebuild*.
There *will His servants be, in praise excelling*.
With *their descendants will the land be filled*;
there *those who love Him all will find a dwelling*.