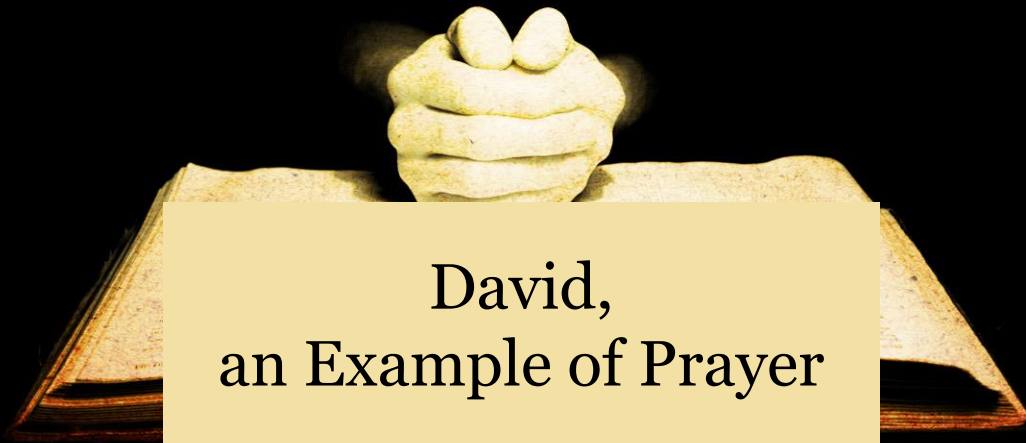


Communicating with God

A study of prayer and Bible study



David,
an Example of Prayer

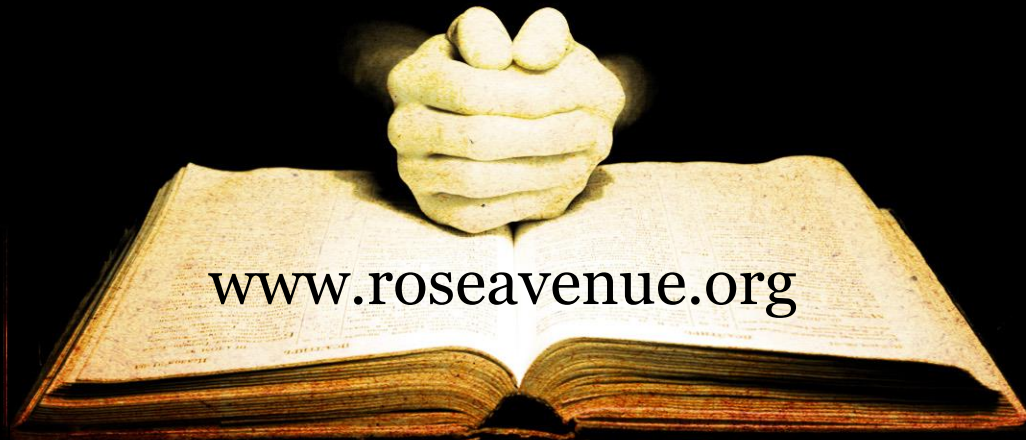
A study of prayer!



- In our last 3 lessons, we have been noticing examples of prayer lives in scripture.
- We have addressed the life of Jesus
- We have addressed the life of Paul
- We have noted several OT examples of prayer (Moses, Abraham, Hannah, Elijah, Daniel, Nehemiah)
- Today...

Prayer (9)

David, an Example of Prayer



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Communicating with God:
A study of Prayer & Bible Study
Our 2024 Theme



David, a man of prayer

- David is mentioned more in scripture than anyone else, except Jesus.
- He is described as, “a man after God’s own heart: **(Acts 13:22, cf. 1 Samuel 13:14, 16:7)**”
- It is evident that prayer was a part of this



David prayed throughout his life

- **1 Samuel 23:11**, fleeing from Saul
- **Psalms 142**, penned by David in a cave fleeing from Saul. He cried out to the LORD with his voice and made supplication
- **2 Samuel 7:27-29**, as the LORD promises to establish his kingdom (**vs. 18-29**)
- **2 Samuel 12:16**, praying for his dying son



David prayed throughout his life

- **2 Samuel 15:31**, David escaping Jerusalem because of the rebellion of Absalom. He prays that God defeat the counsel of Ahithophel, an advisor of Absalom, and now his enemy
- **2 Samuel 24:10, 17**, after sinfully numbering the people, he prays (again) in repentance



David prayed throughout his life

- **Psalm 62:8**, David encourages others to pray. *Trust in Him at all times, you people; Pour out your heart before Him; God is a refuge for us. Selah*



Prayer and the Psalms of David

- David often declared that he would pray to God
- **Psalm 4:1**, *Hear me when I call, O God of my righteousness! You have relieved me in my distress; Have mercy on me, and hear my prayer.*
- **Psalm 5:1-2**, *Give ear to my words, O Lord, Consider my meditation. Give heed to the voice of my cry, My King and my God, For to You I will pray.*



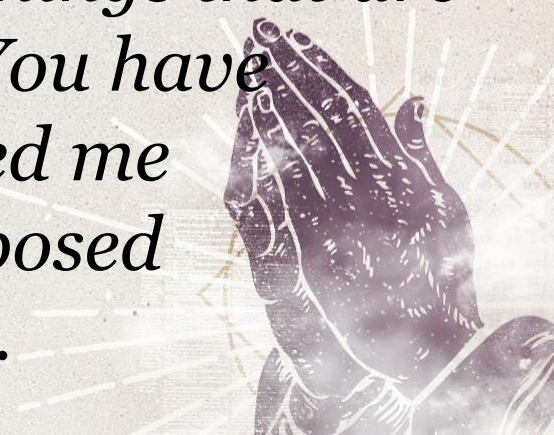
Prayer and the Psalms of David

- David often declared that he would pray to God
- **Psalm 6:9**, *The LORD has heard my supplication; The LORD will receive my prayer.*



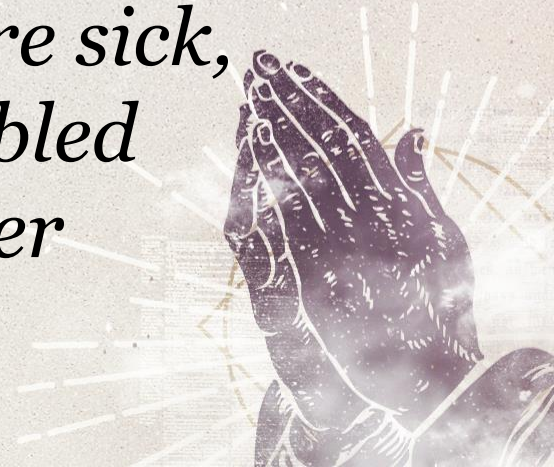
Prayer and the Psalms of David

- David often declared that he would pray to God
- **Psalm 17:1-3**, *Hear a just cause, O LORD, Attend to my cry; Give ear to my prayer which is not from deceitful lips. Let my vindication come from Your presence; Let Your eyes look on the things that are upright. You have tested my heart; You have visited me in the night; You have tried me and have found nothing; I have purposed that my mouth shall not transgress...*



Prayer and the Psalms of David

- David often declared that he would pray to God
- **Psalm 35:1, 13**, David prayed for his enemies. *Plead my cause, O LORD, with those who strive with me; Fight against those who fight against me... But as for me, when they were sick, My clothing was sackcloth; I humbled myself with fasting; And my prayer would return to my own heart.*



Prayer and the Psalms of David

- David often declared that he would pray to God
- **Psalm 55:16-17**, David again dealing with his enemies, trusts God. *Give ear to my prayer, O God, And do not hide Yourself from my supplication.... As for me, I will call upon God, And the LORD shall save me. Evening and morning and at noon I will pray, and cry aloud, And He shall hear my voice.*



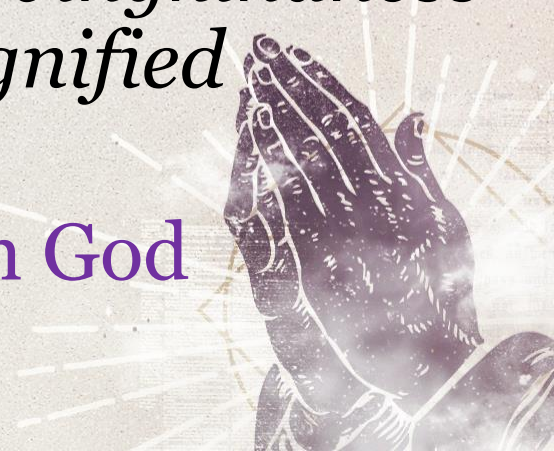
Prayer and the Psalms of David

- David praised God
- **Psalm 36:5-10**, David, in a psalm describing the wicked, then proceeds to praise God for His mercy, righteousness, faithfulness, lovingkindness, etc.



Prayer and the Psalms of David

- David praised God
- **Psalm 138:1-2**, *I will praise You with my whole heart; Before the gods I will sing praises to You. I will worship toward Your holy temple, And praise Your name For Your lovingkindness and Your truth; For You have magnified Your word above all Your name.*
- There are many things about which God is worthy of praise



Prayer and the Psalms of David

- David thanked God
- **Psalm 30**, a song of dedication of the House of David. Not specifically identified as BY David, but it is likely as he dedicates his own house.
- **Psalm 100**, another psalm that calls for us to thank God
- After praising God for who He is, thank Him for what He has done for and in you.
1 Thessalonians 5:18



Prayer and the Psalms of David

- David prayed in confession & repentance
- **Psalm 38**, There are about 5 penitential psalms of David. Most prominent is **Psalm 51**.
- **1 John 1:9** calls for us, as believers, to confess our sins in repentance, and He will forgive us.
- Also, in these psalms we are reminded that we cannot hide from God.
(**Hebrews 4:13, cf. Psalm 139:7, etc.**)



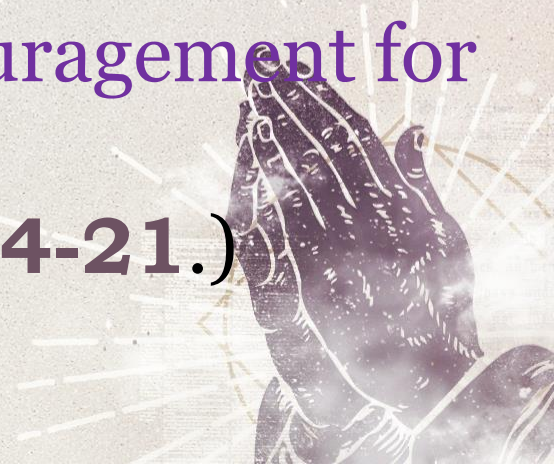
Prayer and the Psalms of David

- David prayed for vindication
- **Psalm 26**, The occasion is not mentioned. David had many opportunities and he put them in God's hands.



Prayer and the Psalms of David

- David prayed for deliverance
- **Psalm 143**, Again, we do not know the occasion. But David pleads with YHWH to hear his prayer and supplications (earnest pleadings).
- When we are in distress and discouragement for being mistreated, turn to Him
(**1 Peter 5:7, cf. Romans 12:14-21.**)



What can we learn from David's prayers?

- NOTE that David was described as “a man after God’s own heart” BEFORE we are introduced to him. He was already faithful to God. He communicated with God.
- We learn from David HOW to pray! Do you want to learn how to pray better? Read the psalms.
- If needed, write out your prayers!



Looking to David's example, is
there a need to improve your
“prayer life?”





Let us pray!