**WHEN GOD’S OWN PRAYS**

**Psalms 4:1-8**

**1 Hear me when I call, O God of my righteousness: thou hast enlarged me *when I was* in distress; have mercy upon me, and hear my prayer.** [**2**](https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Psalms-4-2/)**O ye sons of men, how long *will ye turn* my glory into shame? *how long* will ye love vanity, *and* seek after leasing? Selah.** [**3**](https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Psalms-4-3/)**But know that the LORD hath set apart him that is godly for himself: the LORD will hear when I call unto him.** [**4**](https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Psalms-4-4/)**Stand in awe, and sin not: commune with your own heart upon your bed, and be still. Selah.** [**5**](https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Psalms-4-5/)**Offer the sacrifices of righteousness, and put your trust in the LORD.** [**6**](https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Psalms-4-6/)***There be* many that say, Who will shew us *any* good? LORD, lift thou up the light of thy countenance upon us.** [**7**](https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Psalms-4-7/)**Thou hast put gladness in my heart, more than in the time *that* their corn and their wine increased.** [**8**](https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Psalms-4-8/)**I will both lay me down in peace, and sleep: for thou, LORD, only makest me dwell in safety.**

**INTRO:**

**\*\*David was God’s own; he was God’s man, and he was a man of prayer!**

**\*\*He was the King of Israel, and he depended upon the Lord through prayer.**

**\*\*Prayer was a priority in David’s life, and we as God’s own should make it a priority in our life as well!**

**I Timothy 2:1 I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, *and* giving of thanks, be made for all men;**

**I Thessalonians 5:17 Pray without ceasing.**

**\*\*Let’s look at David’s prayer in the midst of the night during the darkest hours in his life and see what happens When God’s Own Prays!**

**I. NOTICE HIS PERCEPTIONS WHILE HE’S PRAYING**

**\*\*This passage is teaching us that if we want our prayers to be effective, then we must realize and believe some things about our God like David realized and believed.**

 **A. Believe that we serve a God who is Righteous**

**Psalms 4:1a Hear me when I call, O God of my righteousness:**

**\*\*Our prayers are effective when we truly believe . . .**

 **1. God is Holy**

 **a. He is Pure in His Holiness**

 **b. He is Perfect in His Holiness**

 **2. God is Honorable**

 **a. Give Him honor because He is Faultless**

 **b. Give Him honor because He is Flawless**

**\*\*David believed in God’s righteousness so he acknowledged it in his prayer.**

 **B. Believe that we serve a God who is Reliable**

**Psalms 4:1b thou hast enlarged me *when I was* in distress;**

**\*\*David said that every time he was distressed that God came back and made things bigger and better – God enlarged him!**

**\*\*God is faithful to enlarge us and . . .**

 **1. He’ll not leave us Alone in Trials**

 **2. He’ll not leave us Abandoned in Troubles**

**\*\*I’m thankful I serve the same reliable God that David served! Recognize this when you pray and God will be reliable to you too!**

 **C. Believe that we serve a God who is Responsive**

**Psalms 4:1c have mercy upon me, and hear my prayer.**

 **1. God is Compassionate and shows us Grace**

 **2. God is Conscious and shows us Generosity**

**\*\*I’m so glad the Lord responds to our prayers with mercy! Believe that God will respond, and He will!**

**II. NOTICE HIS PARTICULARS WHILE HE’S PRAYING**

 **A. David Prayed About the Deceived**

**Psalms 4:2 O ye sons of men, how long *will ye turn* my glory into shame? *how long* will ye love vanity, *and* seek after leasing? Selah.**

**\*\*David’s enemies followed after vanity and believed lies (leasing) and responded by turning David’s glory into shame.**

**\*\*But look what David did; he prayed for his enemies!**

 **1. We should pray that our enemies get Convicted**

 **2. We should pray that our enemies get Changed**

**\*\*Has anyone ever experienced someone trying to undermine your testimony or influence? Don’t go get even friend. Go get God, and pray for your enemies!**

 **B. David Prayed About the Dedicated**

**Psalms 4:3 But know that the LORD hath set apart him that is godly for himself: the LORD will hear when I call unto him.**

**\*\*The prayers of the dedicated have two parts.**

 **1. An Honest Examination**

**Psalms 4:4 Stand in awe, and sin not: commune with your own heart upon your bed, and be still. Selah.**

 **a. Examine your Lord**

**\*\*When you do you will stand in awe of His Greatness and His Goodness!**

 **b. Examine your Life**

**\*\*When you do, it will cause you to share your Heart and your Honesty.**

 **2. A Humble Expression**

**Psalms 4:5 Offer the sacrifices of righteousness, and put your trust in the LORD.**

**\*\*The sacrifice of righteousness is worship! When the dedicated pray, they need to worship the Lord in their prayers!**

 **a. Worship Him with Adoration**

 **b. Worship Him with Appreciation**

**\*\*Instead of always going to God Wanting, why not go to God Worshiping!**

 **C. David Prayed About the Directions**

**Psalms 4:6 *There be* many that say, Who will shew us *any* good? LORD, lift thou up the light of thy countenance upon us.**

 **1. Sometimes we get Discouraged because of others, and we need God’s Directions.**

 **2. Sometimes we get Doubtful because of others, and we need God’s Directions.**

**\*\*God’s Wisdom and God’s Word will direct us if we will pray about it. That’s what David did!**

**III. NOTICE HIS PRAISES WHILE HE’S PRAYING**

**\*\*David praises the Lord because . . .**

 **A. God Gives Us Pleasure**

**Psalms 4:7 Thou hast put gladness in my heart, more than in the time *that* their corn and their wine increased.**

**\*\*David said that his enemies had prospered for a time; however, God had put a pleasure, a joy, and a gladness in his heart that was more than what his enemies could ever know about!**

 **1. This gladness is Enormous!**

 **2. This gladness is Eternal!**

**\*\*Be glad and rejoice and praise God for the glad things and pleasures He has put in your life!**

 **B. God Gives Us Peace**

**Psalms 4:8 I will both lay me down in peace, and sleep: for thou, LORD, only makest me dwell in safety.**

**\*\*No doubt this was a time when things were not great in David’s life! Still, David said, “I’m going to bed in peace and I’m going to sleep!” This shows us that he believed that he had prayed through and that He trusted the Lord to take care of him.**

 **1. He trusted the Lord to keep him Safe!**

 **2. He trusted the Lord to keep him Secure!**

 **a. When others are uneasy are you secure in His sweet peace?**

 **b. When others are uncertain are you secure in His sweet peace?**

**\*\*I’m thankful that God has a peace for us so we can lay down at night and go to sleep in peace knowing He can answer our prayers!**

**CLOSE**

**\*\*David went through a difficult time here in his life, and the way he got through it was he prayed his way through it!**

**\*\*He prayed for himself. He prayed for others. He prayed for his nation. He was a praying man!**

**\*\*We need to learn to pray like David did and have the faith that David had!**

**\*\*Let’s learn to pray for ourselves and our circumstances and situations that trouble us.**

**\*\*Let’s learn to pray for others who are going through things that need our prayers. I appreciate those who pray for me and know how to get a hold of God!**

**\*\*There’s no telling how many dangers, toils, and snares I’ve come through and made it by the grace of God because someone was praying for me!**

**\*\*Will you come and pray today? Will you come and pray like David prayed?**

**\*\*Will you come and pray for someone else who you know needs prayer? They have problems. They have terrible circumstances they are facing. They are needing the Lord. They need to be saved. Will you come and pray for them right now!**

**\*\*Oh, how things change When God’s Own Prays!**