

Psalm 56

Introduction.

- A. We have all found ourselves in difficult situations.
 - 1. Every decision is a bad decision.
 - 2. There seems to be no way out.
- B. David found himself in such a situation 3000 years ago.
 - 1. Anointed to be the next king of Israel.
 - 2. Killed Goliath, saving King Saul from humiliation.
 - 3. Incurred Saul's jealousy and wrath.
 - 4. Fled for his life.
 - a. To the Philistines.
 - b. He was in greater danger from his own people than from the enemies of his people.
 - c. Then to the cave of Adullam, to Moab, and back to Judah.
- C. Tune: "A dove on distant oaks."
- D. Corresponds to 1 Sam. 21:10 – 22:5.

I. Cry for mercy (1-4).

- A. No place to turn (1-2).
- B. But God is always there.
 - 1. Puts his trust in God (Elohim – power).
 - a. Used 2500+ times in OT, beginning with Ge. 1:1.
 - b. Used 9 times in this psalm.
 - 2. Conquers his fear.
 - 3. What can mortal man do (cf. Ro. 8:31-39).

II. Call for judgment (5-7).

- A. Actions of his enemies (5-6).
- B. May God punish them (7).
 - 1. David was God's anointed.
 - 2. Therefore, actions against David = actions against God.

III. David's trust (8-11).

- A. His misery (8).
 - 1. His tears are noted by God.
 - 2. Moves God to action.
- B. His enemies will turn back (9).
- C. He clings to the Word of God (10).
- D. Same refrain as vs. 4 (11).

IV. Words of praise (12-13).

A. Thanksgiving.

B. Future deliverance put in the past tense.