When Darkness Is My Closest Friend | Day 18: Psalms 88–89 Audio Bible for Despair & Covenant

70 verses • 6:04 reading time • World English Bible

Psalm 88

1 A Song. A Psalm by the sons of Korah. For the Chief Musician. To the tune of “The Suffering of
Affliction.” A contemplation by Heman, the Ezrahite. LORD, the God of my salvation, I have cried day
and night before you. 2 Let my prayer enter into your presence. Turn your ear to my cry. 3 For my soul
is full of troubles. My life draws near to Sheol. 4 I am counted among those who go down into the pit. I
am like a man who has no help, 5 set apart among the dead, like the slain who lie in the grave, whom
you remember no more. They are cut off from your hand. 6 You have laid me in the lowest pit, in the
darkest depths. 7 Your wrath lies heavily on me. You have afflicted me with all your waves. Selah. 8
You have taken my friends from me. You have made me an abomination to them. I am confined, and I
can’t escape. 9 My eyes are dim from grief. I have called on you daily, LORD. I have spread out my
hands to you. 10 Do you show wonders to the dead? Do the departed spirits rise up and praise you?
Selah. 11 Is your loving kindness declared in the grave? Or your faithfulness in Destruction? 12 Are
your wonders made known in the dark? Or your righteousness in the land of forgetfulness? 13 But to
you, LORD, I have cried. In the morning, my prayer comes before you. 14 LORD, why do you reject
my soul? Why do you hide your face from me? 15 I am afflicted and ready to die from my youth up.
While I suffer your terrors, I am distracted. 16 Your fierce wrath has gone over me. Your terrors have
cut me off. 17 They came around me like water all day long. They completely engulfed me. 18 You
have put lover and friend far from me, and my friends into darkness.

Psalm 89

1 A contemplation by Ethan, the Ezrahite. I will sing of the loving kindness of the LORD forever. With
my mouth, I will make known your faithfulness to all generations. 2 I indeed declare, “Love stands firm
forever. You established the heavens. Your faithfulness is in them.” 3 “I have made a covenant with my
chosen one, I have sworn to David, my servant, 4 ‘I will establish your offspring forever, and build up
your throne to all generations.’” Selah. 5 The heavens will praise your wonders, LORD, your
faithfulness also in the assembly of the holy ones. 6 For who in the skies can be compared to the
LORD? Who among the sons of the heavenly beings is like the LORD, 7 a very awesome God in the
council of the holy ones, to be feared above all those who are around him? 8 LORD, God of Armies,
who is a mighty one, like you? LORD, your faithfulness is around you. 9 You rule the pride of the sea.
When its waves rise up, you calm them. 10 You have broken Rahab in pieces, like one of the slain. You
have scattered your enemies with your mighty arm. 11 The heavens are yours. The earth also is yours,
the world and its fullness. You have founded them. 12 You have created the north and the south. Tabor
and Hermon rejoice in your name. 13 You have a mighty arm. Your hand is strong, and your right hand
is exalted. 14 Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne. Loving kindness and truth go
before your face. 15 Blessed are the people who learn to acclaim you. They walk in the light of your
presence, LORD. 16 In your name they rejoice all day. In your righteousness, they are exalted. 17 For
you are the glory of their strength. In your favor, our horn will be exalted. 18 For our shield belongs to
the LORD, our king to the Holy One of Israel. 19 Then you spoke in vision to your saints, and said, “I
have given strength to the warrior. I have exalted a young man from the people. 20 I have found David,
my servant. I have anointed him with my holy oil, 21 with whom my hand shall be established. My arm
will also strengthen him. 22 No enemy will tax him. No wicked man will oppress him. 23 I will beat
down his adversaries before him, and strike those who hate him. 24 But my faithfulness and my loving

kindness will be with him. In my name, his horn will be exalted. 25 I will set his hand also on the sea,
and his right hand on the rivers. 26 He will call to me, ‘You are my Father, my God, and the rock of my
salvation!’ 27 I will also appoint him my firstborn, the highest of the kings of the earth. 28 I will keep
my loving kindness for him forever more. My covenant will stand firm with him. 29 I will also make his
offspring endure forever, and his throne as the days of heaven. 30 If his children forsake my law, and
don’t walk in my ordinances; 31 if they break my statutes, and don’t keep my commandments; 32 then I
will punish their sin with the rod, and their iniquity with stripes. 33 But I will not completely take my
loving kindness from him, nor allow my faithfulness to fail. 34 I will not break my covenant, nor alter
what my lips have uttered. 35 Once I have sworn by my holiness, I will not lie to David. 36 His
offspring will endure forever, his throne like the sun before me. 37 It will be established forever like the
moon, the faithful witness in the sky.” Selah. 38 But you have rejected and spurned. You have been
angry with your anointed. 39 You have renounced the covenant of your servant. You have defiled his
crown in the dust. 40 You have broken down all his hedges. You have brought his strongholds to ruin.
41 All who pass by the way rob him. He has become a reproach to his neighbors. 42 You have exalted
the right hand of his adversaries. You have made all of his enemies rejoice. 43 Yes, you turn back the
edge of his sword, and haven’t supported him in battle. 44 You have ended his splendor, and thrown his
throne down to the ground. 45 You have shortened the days of his youth. You have covered him with
shame. Selah. 46 How long, LORD? Will you hide yourself forever? Will your wrath burn like fire? 47
Remember how short my time is, for what vanity you have created all the children of men! 48 What
man is he who shall live and not see death, who shall deliver his soul from the power of Sheol? Selah.
49 Lord, where are your former loving kindnesses, which you swore to David in your faithfulness? 50
Remember, Lord, the reproach of your servants, how I bear in my heart the taunts of all the mighty
peoples, 51 With which your enemies have mocked, LORD, with which they have mocked the footsteps
of your anointed one. 52 Blessed be the LORD forever more. Amen, and Amen.