

# Jeremiah 14:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

O the hope of Israel, the saviour thereof in time of trouble,  
why shouldest thou be as a stranger in the land, and as a  
wayfaring man that turneth aside to tarry for a night?

## Analysis

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The prayer continues with rich covenant titles: 'O the hope of Israel, the Saviour thereof in time of trouble, why shouldest thou be as a stranger in the land, and as a wayfaring man that turneth aside to tarry for a night?' The titles 'hope of Israel' and 'Saviour' appeal to God's covenant relationship. The questions protest God's seeming absence: He appears as a 'stranger' or 'wayfaring man' (temporary traveler) rather than permanent resident and covenant Lord. This bold prayer language demands God act consistently with His covenant identity. The Reformed tradition values such biblically-grounded, doctrinally-informed prayer.

## Historical Context

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Israel's history demonstrated God as Savior in times of trouble (Exodus, conquest, judges period). The complaint is that God now seems absent during crisis, contrary to His demonstrated character and covenant promises.

## Related Passages

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**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

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**Isaiah 43:11** (Salvation): I, even I, am the LORD; and beside me there is no saviour.

**Isaiah 45:21** (Salvation): Tell ye, and bring them near; yea, let them take counsel together: who hath declared this from ancient time? who hath told it from that time? have not I the LORD? and there is no God else beside me; a just God and a Saviour; there is none beside me.

**Joel 3:16** (Hope): The LORD also shall roar out of Zion, and utter his voice from Jerusalem; and the heavens and the earth shall shake: but the LORD will be the hope of his people, and the strength of the children of Israel.

**Isaiah 45:15** (Salvation): Verily thou art a God that hidest thyself, O God of Israel, the Saviour.

**Acts 28:20** (Hope): For this cause therefore have I called for you, to see you, and to speak with you: because that for the hope of Israel I am bound with this chain.

**Psalms 138:7** (Salvation): Though I walk in the midst of trouble, thou wilt revive me: thou shalt stretch forth thine hand against the wrath of mine enemies, and thy right hand shall save me.