

Psalm 130:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Lord, hear my voice: let thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications.

Analysis

The cry continues with a plea for divine attention: 'LORD, hear my voice: let thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications.' The double reference to 'voice' emphasizes verbal prayer - words spoken in desperation. The imperative 'hear' (Hebrew 'shama') means to listen with intent to respond, not merely perceive sound. The phrase 'let thine ears be attentive' personalizes God anthropomorphically - giving Him ears suggests He actively listens. 'Attentive' (Hebrew 'qashab') means to prick up ears, pay close attention, be alert. The description 'voice of my supplications' specifies the prayer type - not praise or thanksgiving but petitions for mercy and help. Supplications (Hebrew 'tachanunim') come from root meaning to show favor or be gracious. The verse demonstrates bold prayer - asking God to listen carefully, not casually. Faith enables direct appeal for divine attention.

Historical Context

The plea for God to hear appears throughout psalms (5:1-2; 17:1; 39:12; 55:1-2; 61:1; 64:1; 102:1; 143:1), establishing a pattern of bold prayer. Biblical theology affirms God hears His people's cries (Exodus 2:24; 3:7; 1 Kings 9:3), making such appeals appropriate based on covenant relationship.

Related Passages

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Revelation 20:12 – Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. What gives believers confidence to ask God to 'hear' and 'be attentive' as if commanding Him?
2. How does the double reference to 'voice' emphasize verbal, articulated prayer?
3. What is the difference between God hearing and God being 'attentive' to prayer?
4. How do 'supplications' differ from other forms of prayer (praise, thanksgiving, confession)?
5. Why is it significant that the psalmist prays 'my voice' and 'my supplications' - how does prayer become personal?

Interlinear Text

ל ק ול ק שב ות א זריך תחן ינה ל ק ול שמע ה אדני Lord hear my voice H1961 let thine ears be attentive my voice H1961 H241 H7183 H6963 H136 H8085 H6963

תְּפִלָּה of my supplications

Additional Cross-References

2 Chronicles 6:40 (Parallel theme): Now, my God, let, I beseech thee, thine eyes be open, and let thine ears be attent unto the prayer that is made in this place.

Isaiah 37:17 (References Lord): Incline thine ear, O LORD, and hear; open thine eyes, O LORD, and see: and hear all the words of Sennacherib, which hath sent to reproach the living God.

Nehemiah 1:6 (Parallel theme): Let thine ear now be attentive, and thine eyes open, that thou mayest hear the prayer of thy servant, which I pray before thee

now, day and night, for the children of Israel thy servants, and confess the sins of the children of Israel, which we have sinned against thee: both I and my father's house have sinned.

Nehemiah 1:11 (References Lord): O Lord, I beseech thee, let now thine ear be attentive to the prayer of thy servant, and to the prayer of thy servants, who desire to fear thy name: and prosper, I pray thee, thy servant this day, and grant him mercy in the sight of this man. For I was the king's cupbearer.

Psalms 28:2 (Parallel theme): Hear the voice of my supplications, when I cry unto thee, when I lift up my hands toward thy holy oracle.

Psalms 140:6 (References Lord): I said unto the LORD, Thou art my God: hear the voice of my supplications, O LORD.

Psalms 64:1 (Parallel theme): Hear my voice, O God, in my prayer: preserve my life from fear of the enemy.

Psalms 17:1 (References Lord): Hear the right, O LORD, attend unto my cry, give ear unto my prayer, that goeth not out of feigned lips.

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