

# Psalms 18:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

In my distress I called upon the LORD, and cried unto my God: he heard my voice out of his temple, and my cry came before him, even into his ears.

## Analysis

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In distress, David called to Yahweh and his cry reached God's temple—from earth to heaven. The Hebrew 'tsaaq' (cry out) indicates desperate petition. God heard ('shama') his voice, indicating attentive response. This anticipates Jesus teaching to pray to 'Our Father in heaven' (Matthew 6:9) and Hebrews' encouragement to approach the throne of grace with confidence (Hebrews 4:16). Prayer bridges earth and heaven.

## Historical Context

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The temple reference may be anachronistic (pre-Solomon) or refer to God's heavenly dwelling. Ancient Near Eastern religions had earthly temples as dwelling places of gods; Israel's God dwelt in heaven.

## Related Passages

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**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

**Psalms 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

## Study Questions

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1. How confident are you that your prayers reach God's hearing?
2. What hinders you from crying out to God in distress?

## Interlinear Text

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בְּצָר	לִי	אָקָרָא	יְהוָה	וְאֵל	אֱלֹהֵי	אֲשַׁוֵּעַ
In my distress	H0	I called	upon the LORD	H413	unto my God	and cried
H6862		H7121	H3068		H430	H7768
יִשְׁמַע	מִהֵיכַל	קוֹלִי	וּשְׁוַעֲתִי	לִפְנֵי	וָאֵל	תָּבֹא
he heard	out of his temple	my voice	and my cry	before		came
H8085	H1964	H6963	H7775	H6440		H935
בָּאֲזְנוֹ:						
him even into his ears						
H241						

## Additional Cross-References

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**Psalms 50:15** (Parallel theme): And call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me.

**2 Samuel 22:7** (Temple): In my distress I called upon the LORD, and cried to my God: and he did hear my voice out of his temple, and my cry did enter into his ears.

**Psalms 34:15** (References Lord): The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous, and his ears are open unto their cry.

**Psalms 120:1** (References Lord): In my distress I cried unto the LORD, and he heard me.

**Acts 12:5** (References God): Peter therefore was kept in prison: but prayer was made without ceasing of the church unto God for him.

**2 Chronicles 30:27** (Parallel theme): Then the priests the Levites arose and blessed the people: and their voice was heard, and their prayer came up to his holy dwelling place, even unto heaven.

**Exodus 2:23** (References God): And it came to pass in process of time, that the king of Egypt died: and the children of Israel sighed by reason of the bondage, and they cried, and their cry came up unto God by reason of the bondage.

**Habakkuk 2:20** (Temple): But the LORD is in his holy temple: let all the earth keep silence before him.

**Psalms 5:7** (Temple): But as for me, I will come into thy house in the multitude of thy mercy: and in thy fear will I worship toward thy holy temple.

**Psalms 11:4** (Temple): The LORD is in his holy temple, the LORD'S throne is in heaven: his eyes behold, his eyelids try, the children of men.