

Psalms 38

Chapter 38 of 150 · 22 Verses · Authorized King James Version

Do Not Forsake Me, O Lord

- 1** O LORD, rebuke me not in thy wrath: neither chasten me in thy hot displeasure.
- 2** For thine arrows stick fast in me, and thy hand presseth me sore.
- 3** There is no soundness in my flesh because of thine anger; neither is there any rest in my bones because of my sin.
- 4** For mine iniquities are gone over mine head: as an heavy burden they are too heavy for me.
- 5** My wounds stink and are corrupt because of my foolishness.
- 6** I am troubled; I am bowed down greatly; I go mourning all the day long.
- 7** For my loins are filled with a loathsome disease: and there is no soundness in my flesh.
- 8** I am feeble and sore broken: I have roared by reason of the disquietness of my heart.
- 9** Lord, all my desire is before thee; and my groaning is not hid from thee.

- 10** My heart panteth, my strength faileth me: as for the light of mine eyes, it also is gone from me.
- 11** My lovers and my friends stand aloof from my sore; and my kinsmen stand afar off.

12 They also that seek after my life lay snares for me: and they that seek my hurt speak mischievous things, and imagine deceits all the day long.

13 But I, as a deaf man, heard not; and I was as a dumb man that openeth not his mouth.

14 Thus I was as a man that heareth not, and in whose mouth are no reproofs.

15 For in thee, O LORD, do I hope: thou wilt hear, O Lord my God.

16 For I said, Hear me, lest otherwise they should rejoice over me: when my foot slippeth, they magnify themselves against me.

17 For I am ready to halt, and my sorrow is continually before me.

18 For I will declare mine iniquity; I will be sorry for my sin.

19 But mine enemies are lively, and they are strong: and they that hate me wrongfully are multiplied.

20 They also that render evil for good are mine adversaries; because I follow the thing that good is.

21 Forsake me not, O LORD: O my God, be not far from me.

22 Make haste to help me, O Lord my salvation.

HEBREW & GREEK WORD STUDIES

God — אלהים (Elohim)

God (plural of majesty)

The Hebrew **Elohim** (אֱלֹהִים) is a plural form denoting majesty and fullness of deity. Though grammatically plural, it takes singular verbs when referring to the one true God, suggesting the Trinity's plurality within unity.

Iniquity — גַּעַן (Avon)

Iniquity, guilt, punishment

The Hebrew **avon** (גַּעַן) encompasses iniquity, guilt, and its punishment—the twisted nature of sin. 'The LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all' (Isaiah 53:6), Christ bearing our guilt and penalty.

Lord — אֲדֹנָי / יְהֹוָה (YHWH / Adonai)

The LORD / Lord

When 'LORD' appears in small capitals, it represents the Tetragrammaton **YHWH** (יְהֹוָה), God's personal covenant name meaning 'I AM.' When 'Lord' appears normally, it's **Adonai** (אֲדֹנָי), meaning 'my Lord,' emphasizing sovereignty.

Love — אהָבָה / אַהֲבָה (Ahavah / Chesed)

Love / Loyal-love

Hebrew uses **ahavah** (אהָבָה) for love generally, but the covenant term **chesed** (אַהֲבָה) describes God's steadfast, loyal love—faithful covenant commitment beyond mere emotion.

Salvation — יְשֻׁעָה (Yeshuah)

Salvation, deliverance

The Hebrew **yeshuah** (יְשֻׁעָה) means salvation or deliverance—rescue from danger or enemies. This is the root of 'Jesus' (Yeshua), meaning 'YHWH saves.'

Sin — חַטָּאת (Chatta'ah)

Sin, missing the mark

The Hebrew **chatta'ah** (חַטָּאת) means sin—missing the mark of God's standard. It encompasses rebellion, transgression, and falling short of divine holiness.

Wrath — נַזְר (Aph)

Wrath, anger

The Hebrew **aph** (נַזְר) literally means 'nose' or 'nostrils,' idiomatically expressing wrath or anger—God's righteous indignation against sin. Yet God is 'slow to anger' (Exodus 34:6) and 'abundant in mercy.'

CROSS REFERENCES

Psalms 38:1 **References Lord:** Psalms 6:1; 70:1; Jeremiah 30:11. **Judgment:** Isaiah 54:8; Jeremiah 10:24

Psalms 38:2 **Parallel theme:** Psalms 32:4; Job 6:4

Psalms 38:3 **Parallel theme:** Psalms 6:2; 51:8

Psalms 38:4 **Parallel theme:** Psalms 40:12; Ezra 9:6; Lamentations 1:14; Matthew 11:28; 1 Peter 2:24

Psalms 38:6 **Parallel theme:** Psalms 35:14; 42:5; 42:9; 43:2; Job 30:28

Psalms 38:8 **Parallel theme:** Psalms 32:3; Job 3:24; 30:28

Psalms 38:9

References Lord: Psalms 10:17. **Parallel theme:** Psalms 6:6; 102:5; John 1:48; 2 Corinthians 5:2

Psalms 38:10 **Parallel theme:** Psalms 6:7; 69:3; 88:9

Psalms 38:11

Parallel theme: Psalms 31:11; Matthew 26:56; Luke 22:54; 23:49; John 16:32. **Love:** Psalms 88:18

Psalms 38:12 **Parallel theme:** Psalms 35:4; 35:20; 140:5; 141:9

Psalms 38:13 **Parallel theme:** Psalms 39:2; 39:9; Isaiah 53:7; 1 Peter 2:23

Psalms 38:15 **Hope:** Psalms 39:7. **References God:** Psalms 17:6. **Parallel theme:** Psalms 138:3

Psalms 38:16 **Parallel theme:** Psalms 94:18

Psalms 38:17 **Parallel theme:** Psalms 6:6; 35:15; 38:6

Psalms 38:18 **Sin:** Psalms 32:5; 51:3; Job 33:27; Proverbs 28:13

Psalms 38:19 **Parallel theme:** Psalms 35:19

Psalms 38:20 **Evil:** Psalms 35:12; Jeremiah 18:20; 1 John 3:12

Psalms 38:21 **References Lord:** Psalms 22:19. **Parallel theme:** Psalms 22:11; 22:24

Psalms 38:22 **References Lord:** Psalms 40:13; 40:17; 70:1; 70:5; 141:1. **Salvation:** Psalms 27:1; 62:2; 62:6; Isaiah 12:2. **Parallel theme:** Psalms 71:12