

Psalms 40:13

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Be pleased, O LORD, to deliver me: O LORD, make haste to help me.

Analysis

This urgent plea--'Be pleased, O LORD, to deliver me'--uses the Hebrew ratsah (be pleased, take delight). David appeals not to his own merit but to God's gracious disposition. The cry for God to 'make haste to help me' reflects desperate dependence, acknowledging that only divine intervention can rescue from overwhelming circumstances.

Historical Context

This verse echoes language from other Davidic psalms of distress (Psalms 22, 31, 70), forming a vocabulary of crisis that later became the church's language for spiritual warfare and trials.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. Why does David appeal to God's 'pleasure' rather than to his own deservingness?
2. How does urgency in prayer reflect faith rather than doubt?

Interlinear Text

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|------------|--------|-------------|--------|-----------|------------|
| רַצֵּה | יְהוָה | לְהַצִּילִי | יְהוָה | לְעֹזְרִי | יְהוָה |
| Be pleased | O LORD | to deliver | O LORD | to help | make haste |
| H7521 | H3068 | H5337 | H3068 | H5833 | H2363 |

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 38:22 (References Lord): Make haste to help me, O Lord my salvation.

Psalms 22:19 (References Lord): But be not thou far from me, O LORD: O my strength, haste thee to help me.

Psalms 71:12 (Parallel theme): O God, be not far from me: O my God, make haste for my help.