

Psalms 88

Chapter 88 of 150 · 18 Verses · Authorized King James Version

I Cry Out Day and Night

- ¹ O LORD God of my salvation, I have cried day and night before thee:
- ² Let my prayer come before thee: incline thine ear unto my cry;
- ³ For my soul is full of troubles: and my life draweth nigh unto the grave.
- ⁴ I am counted with them that go down into the pit: I am as a man that hath no strength:
- ⁵ Free among the dead, like the slain that lie in the grave, whom thou rememberest no more: and they are cut off from thy hand.
- ⁶ Thou hast laid me in the lowest pit, in darkness, in the deeps.
- ⁷ Thy wrath lieth hard upon me, and thou hast afflicted me with all thy waves. Selah.
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- ⁸ Thou hast put away mine acquaintance far from me; thou hast made me an abomination unto them: I am shut up, and I cannot come forth.
- ⁹ Mine eye mourneth by reason of affliction: LORD, I have called daily upon thee, I have stretched out my hands unto thee.
- ¹⁰ Wilt thou shew wonders to the dead? shall the dead arise and praise thee? Selah.
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- ¹¹ Shall thy lovingkindness be declared in the grave? or thy faithfulness in destruction?

- 12 Shall thy wonders be known in the dark? and thy righteousness in the land of forgetfulness?
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- 13 But unto thee have I cried, O LORD; and in the morning shall my prayer prevent thee.
- 14 LORD, why castest thou off my soul? why hidest thou thy face from me?
- 15 I am afflicted and ready to die from my youth up: while I suffer thy terrors I am distracted.
- 16 Thy fierce wrath goeth over me; thy terrors have cut me off.
- 17 They came round about me daily like water; they compassed me about together.
- 18 Lover and friend hast thou put far from me, and mine acquaintance into darkness.
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HEBREW & GREEK WORD STUDIES

Faith — אֱמוּנָה (Emunah)

Faithfulness, trust

The Hebrew **emunah** (אֱמוּנָה) encompasses both faith and faithfulness—trusting God and being trustworthy. It implies steadfast reliability, as in 'The just shall live by his faith' (Habakkuk 2:4).

Lord — יְהוָה / אֲדֹנָי (YHWH / Adonai)

The LORD / Lord

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

Love — אַהֲבָה / חֶסֶד (Ahavah / Chesed)

Love / Loyal-love

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

Righteous — צַדִּיק (Tzaddik)

Righteous one

The Hebrew **tzaddik** (צַדִּיק) describes one who is righteous, just, or lawful—conforming to God's standard. From the root tzedek (צֶדֶק), meaning righteousness or justice.

Salvation — יְשׁוּעָה (Yeshuah)

Salvation, deliverance

The Hebrew **yeshuah** (יְשׁוּעָה) means salvation or deliverance—rescue from danger or enemies.

This is the root of 'Jesus' (Yeshua), meaning 'YHWH saves.'

Wrath — אַף (Aph)

Wrath, anger

The Hebrew **aph** (אַף) 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 88:1 **Salvation:** Psalms 27:9; 51:14; Genesis 49:18; Isaiah 12:2. **References God:** Psalms 22:2; 53:1; Luke 18:7. **References Lord:** Psalms 86:3. **Parallel theme:** 1 Kings 4:31

Psalms 88:2 **Parallel theme:** Psalms 31:2. **Prayer:** Lamentations 3:8

Psalms 88:3 **Parallel theme:** Psalms 107:18

Psalms 88:4 **Parallel theme:** Psalms 28:1; 143:7; 2 Corinthians 1:9

Psalms 88:5 **Parallel theme:** Psalms 31:22; Isaiah 53:8

Psalms 88:6 **Parallel theme:** Psalms 40:2; 69:15; 86:13. **Darkness:** Psalms 143:3; Lamentations 3:2; John 12:46

Psalms 88:7 **Parallel theme:** Psalms 42:7; Job 6:4; 1 Peter 2:24

Psalms 88:8 **Parallel theme:** Psalms 31:11; Isaiah 49:7; Jeremiah 32:2; Zechariah 11:8

Psalms 88:9

References Lord: Psalms 86:3. **Parallel theme:** Psalms 38:10; 143:6; Job 11:13

Psalms 88:10 **Parallel theme:** Psalms 6:5. **Resurrection:** Psalms 30:9; Isaiah 26:19

Psalms 88:12 **Parallel theme:** Ecclesiastes 9:5

Psalms 88:13 **Prayer:** Psalms 5:3; Mark 1:35. **References Lord:** Psalms 30:2

Psalms 88:14

Parallel theme: Psalms 43:2; 44:24; Job 13:24. **References Lord:** Psalms 13:1

Psalms 88:15 **Parallel theme:** Psalms 73:14; Job 6:4; Luke 22:44

Psalms 88:17 **Parallel theme:** Psalms 22:16

Psalms 88:18 **Parallel theme:** Psalms 31:11; 88:8. **Love:** Psalms 38:11

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