

Psalm 70:1–5 — "Make Haste, O God"

Text (NKJV):

*1 Make haste, O God, to deliver me! Make haste to help me, O LORD!
2 Let them be ashamed and confounded who seek my life;
Let them be turned back and confused who desire my hurt.
3 Let them be turned back because of their shame, who say, "Aha, aha!"
4 Let all those who seek You rejoice and be glad in You;
And let those who love Your salvation say continually,
"Let God be magnified!"
5 But I am poor and needy;
Make haste to me, O God!
You are my help and my deliverer;
O LORD, do not delay.*

Verse 1 — A Cry for Immediate Help

"Make haste, O God, to deliver me! Make haste to help me, O LORD!"

David's plea is marked by urgency. He is not demanding in arrogance but crying out in desperation, knowing that God's deliverance is his only hope. It reflects the reality that while God's timing is perfect, from our human perspective, it often feels delayed, especially in seasons of suffering or danger.

David models honesty in prayer — he doesn't mask his urgency or pretend to be patient when his heart is crying for immediate relief. His repeated *"make haste"* shows that it's not wrong to express our feelings plainly before God. This teaches us that prayer is not about polished speeches but about pouring out our real, raw hearts to a loving Father who listens.

Personal Application:

When we find ourselves in trials, it is not irreverent to ask God to move quickly. God welcomes sincerity. We are invited to "come boldly to the throne of grace" (Hebrews 4:16) not because of our worthiness, but because of His mercy. When in distress, do not hesitate to cry out to God, "Lord, make haste to help me!"

Verses 2–3 — A Plea for Vindication

"Let them be ashamed and confounded who seek my life; Let them be turned back and confused who desire my hurt. Let them be turned back because of their shame, who say, 'Aha, aha!'"

David prays for justice — not out of a spirit of revenge, but out of a heart that longs for wrongs to be made right. The expression *"Aha, aha!"* in the Scriptures often signifies malicious gloating. It's a smug satisfaction at another's misfortune, a posture that reflects pride and cruelty.

David desires that those who rejoice in evil would be brought to shame, not merely to satisfy his own vindication but to uphold God's righteousness.

Personal Application:

It's natural to desire justice when we are wronged. However, we must entrust ultimate judgment to God. Romans 12:19 reminds us, *"Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, 'Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,' says the Lord."* When we are mocked or mistreated, we can confidently place our case in God's hands, trusting that He will deal with every person justly.

Verse 4 — A Call to Rejoice and Magnify God

"Let all those who seek You rejoice and be glad in You; And let those who love Your salvation say continually, 'Let God be magnified!'"

In contrast to the malice of the wicked, David invites the righteous — those who seek God — to respond with joy and gladness. This joy is not in circumstances but in God Himself. Those who love God's salvation are called to be continually mindful of Him, magnifying His name.

"Let God be magnified!" — what a rich expression! It shifts our focus away from our struggles and places it upon God's greatness. This phrase reminds us that our ultimate purpose is not our comfort but God's glory.

Personal Application:

As believers, we should cultivate a heart that magnifies God, not only in worship services but continually — in our speech, actions, and attitudes. The more we magnify God, the smaller our problems appear in comparison to His greatness. Make it a habit this week to say, "Let God be magnified," especially in moments of difficulty or success. Speak it aloud — remind yourself and others that God is greater than every trial.

Verse 5 — A Humble Plea from a Needy Heart

"But I am poor and needy; Make haste to me, O God! You are my help and my deliverer; O LORD, do not delay."

David ends where he began — acknowledging his poverty and neediness. There is no pretense here. He is not self-sufficient; he is utterly dependent on God.

Notice the balance: David acknowledges both his desperation (*"poor and needy"*) and his confidence (*"You are my help and my deliverer"*). His prayer is not grounded in fear but in faith — faith that the God he cries out to is willing and able to deliver.

Personal Application:

There is power in recognizing our need for God. In our self-reliant culture, admitting weakness is often frowned upon. Yet, Scripture tells us that God's strength is made perfect in weakness (2 Corinthians 12:9). When we come to God as poor and needy, He meets us with His sufficiency and grace. Bring your weakness to Him today, confident that He is your help and deliverer.

Conclusion and Encouragement

Psalms 70 is a beautiful reminder that God welcomes the honest prayers of His children. It teaches us to:

- Cry out urgently when in need.
- Trust God for justice against wrongs.
- Continually magnify God in every circumstance.
- Humbly recognize our need for His help.

Challenge for the Week:

Whenever you feel pressed by circumstances, remember to cry out sincerely to God. Add to your vocabulary the phrase: *"Let God be magnified!"* Let it become the anthem of your heart, not only when things are good but especially when they are hard.