

Tuesday, November 8, 2022 ◻ Read Psalm 71:14–24

Questions from the Scripture text: What will the psalmist do, when (v14a)? What else (v14b)? How much? Of what two things will his mouth tell (v15a, b)? When? Why so long (v15c)? In what strength will he walk (v16a)? Whose righteousness will he claim (v16b)? Whose else? What has God done to him (v17a)? Since when (cf. v6a–b)? What does the psalmist continue to do in response (v17b, cf. v6c)? What season of life is the psalmist in (v18a)? What does he ask (v18b)? Why does he want to remain (v18c–d, cf. Php 1:24–26)? What else does he want to declare (v19a)? In what have his righteousness and strength been displayed (v19b)? Showing what (v19c)? Who has put the psalmist through what (v20a)? What else will God do (v20b)? Even from what (v20c)? What two things will God add to this deliverance/reviving (v21)? How will the psalmist respond (v22)? How do we know that this is specifically corporate worship (v22a, c; cf. 1Chr 25)? How does the end of v22d affirm this? What part of him will participate in v23a? With what affection? What part of him in v23b? What else will he do (v24a)? To what specific great work (cf. v19b) is he responding with all this worship (v24b–d)?

How is God’s faithfulness known in old age? Psalm 71:14–24 looks forward to the opening portion of morning public worship on the coming Lord’s Day. In these eleven verses of Holy Scripture, the Holy Spirit teaches us that **our God brings us through great and severe troubles so that we will rejoice over the certainty of resurrection unto corporate worship for the everlasting praise of God.**

Hope in God now and forever, v14–16. Hope in God did not begin with this Psalm for the psalmist. If we do not learn to trust, love, and praise God from our youth, then we may reasonably expect our old age to be without hope. But the psalmist who has continually hoped in God (v14a) is assured that his praise of God will increase forever (v14b). It will take eternally increasing praise to exalt the righteousness, salvation, and strength of God (v15–16).

Praise trained in from youngest days, v17–18. God has been his teacher from his youth (v17a), until what end? That even now in his old age (v18a), the psalmist would declare his wondrous works (v17b). Like Paul in Philippians 1:24–26, the psalmist has a good grasp of the role of the elderly believer: to declare to young God’s strength and power—to be used by God to direct others, so that one day they will be the life-long hoppers in and worshipers of God.

Useful trouble, v19–24. God has done great things (v19b) in His righteousness (v19a). Great things like what? Like putting His servant through “great and severe troubles” (v20a). God will save us from the grave in resurrection (v20c), and often He puts us through things that feel like a death in order to train us to trust that He is the God Who revives us (v20b). Manmade religion says that you will have less trouble, but our resurrecting God says “in this world you will have trouble” (cf. John 16:33), and “through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God” (cf. Acts 14:22), and the Lord chastens all true sons (cf. Heb 12:7), and “everyone who desires to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted” (cf. 2Tim 3:12). Indeed, we cry with the psalmist, “O God, Who is like You?!”

Troubles bring this life into the context of eternity for us (cf. Rom 8:18, 2Cor 4:17). The reminder of resurrection (v20) brings into view glorification (v21a) and perfected blessedness (v21b). When a saint in such circumstances comes to corporate worship (note the priestly instruments in v22), he has in view not only ultimate deliverance, glorification, and perfected blessing, but also perfected worship: great rejoicing in songs, with resurrected lips and tongues that belong to redeemed souls (v23–24a).

By bringing our future, eternal glory and worship into view, we receive one more benefit from great troubles at the hands of the wicked. Such troubles remind us that we will be praising God at the judgment. Though we take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, or in their misery now, we are sure that we will be praising God for His justness when He condemns them at the judgment. And this gives us a key to praying in trouble and praising after it: praying for and praising the righteousness of God in confounding and shaming the wicked (v24).

What troubles are you in? What do they remind you about God? What do they remind you about this life in light of the next? How do both your praying and praising in the midst of them reflect this Psalm?

Sample prayer: Lord God, Your righteousness is very high! You have done great things! Who is a God like You? You have saved us from great and sever troubles, and You will save us from death to praise You forever. Make our lips to greatly rejoice as we sing. Make our souls, which You have redeemed, to greatly rejoice. Make our tongues to speak of Your righteousness. Attend us by Your almighty Spirit in every part of the worship we ask, in Christ’s Name, AMEN!

Suggested songs: ARP71C “I’ll Come to Tell the Mighty Deeds” or TPH71 “In You, LORD, I Take Refuge”

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(The following is a machine-generated transcription. PLEASE BE AWARE of—and patient with—transcribing errors. If there is something confusing or obviously erroneous, you are invited to listen to the audio recording via hopewellarp.org)

Psalm 71:14 through 24. These are God’s words, but I will hope continually and will praise you yet more and more. My mouth shall tell if your righteousness and your salvation. All the day for. I do not know their limits. We’ll go in the strength of the Lord. Yahweh. I will make mention of your righteousness of yours only.

Oh God, you have taught me from my youth and to this day, I declare your wondrous works. Now, also, when I am old and gray-headed, oh god, do not forsake me until I declare your strength to this generation, your power, to everyone who is to come. Also, your righteousness, o God is very high, you who have done great things.

Oh God. Who is like you you have shown me great and severe troubles. You who have shown me great and severe troubles. Shall revive me again. And bring me up again from the depths of the earth, you shall increase my greatness and comfort me on every side. Also with the loot, I will praise you and your faithfulness.

Oh my god, to you. I will sing with the harp. Holy One of Israel. My lips shall greatly rejoice. When I sing to you and my soul, which you have redeemed, My tongue also shall talk of your righteousness. All that day long for they are confounded for. They are brought to shame.

You seek my heart So far the reading of God's inspired and inherent worked. The days of our troubles are numbered The days of our troublers are numbered because God's plan for those whom, he brings to faith and himself.

Because God's plan for those who He brings to himself through faith in Christ is that we should be led by Christ and worshiping God together forever and ever. As the one who has redeemed us from every trouble on, especially from sin and death and hell in order to be gathered to admire his greatness and glory forever and ever, This is what God has designed to do for us and ultimate sense.

And so, this is something that God does throughout our lives, in an ongoing sense. Now, the first part of that is when you are a baby, which Sofia is not even a baby anymore, but she's still very early on in her life. And she needs older brothers and sisters, and especially a mom and dad, and especially elders and especially the elderly in the church to keep telling her how good and great God is like, he says in the Bible and he's not just been that way in the Bible.

He's been that way in our lives our whole lifelong so that as a four-year-old, learns that about God and family worship times and in public worship times and then she is praising God and those worship times. And she goes through life and she who has no real troubles really so far in her life.

But she starts to have little troubles and bigger, troubles and bigger. Troubles life is full of increasing trouble and then you get old and you're troubles start to outweigh life itself and eventually the misery and boundless of this world to corruption and decay wins out. People like to say, father time is undefeated the only through things in life or death in Texas.

And to that the believer says that is nonsense. First of all, father time isn't even a thing. Time isn't a person and time is defeated time was created and defeated. And death is not the only short thing. Resurrection is more shore for a believer even than death. Some will not die.

We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed. And so coming death to the time of death as a believer, enables you to look forward to resurrection and look back on your life and say, God has been teaching me about this moment for my entire life. He's been saving me out of my troubles.

So that when I heard the old people were coming to the border of death, telling me even as a four-year-old even as a little child in the church and in my family, when I heard them telling me about God, and I knew that was true. Then God brought me through these experiences of my life and I knew it more and more to be true even through his blessing to me my experiences.

So The psalm was just saying I will hope continually appraise you yet more and more, my mouth shall tell of your righteousness and your salvation. All the day for. I do not know their limits. God keeps sustaining us. Keep strengthening us. Keeps redeeming us out of situations. Keeps blessing them to us.

The more experience, we have of them. The more we realize we have not yet begun to scratch the surface of the greatness of his righteousness. The greatness of history verse 16, I will go in the strength of the Lord. Yahweh. I will make mention of your righteousness of yours only O God.

You have taught me from my youth and so he's looking back on his beginning and how this is something. He's been learning his whole life and to this day, I declare your wondrous works. Now, also, when I am old and gray-headed, it's something that God continues and will continue to do it.

He's praying for when I am old and gray-headed. Oh god. Do not forsake me until Why is he still here? Why is he still alive? Why isn't he died? And departed to be with the Lord, and wait for the resurrection, because God still has work for him to do.

What does that work until I declare your strength to this generation? Your power to everyone who is to come. God has not given you whatever experience you have had of His goodness and His mercy and Hisparing. You and is taking you through trouble and is taking you out of trouble.

God has not given you all of those things. Just for yourself. He's given you those things. So you can testify of them to others and especially to those who have not had the providence of being through such difficulty yet, especially the young. So until I declare your strength of this generation, your power to everyone who is to come.

It's the same logic as the Apostle Paul in Philippians, who feels like he might be short for this world and he can't figure out, which he would prefer to live in Christ or to depart and be with the Lord, which is in itself better by far and yet, what does he conclude?

He concludes that for the sake of those to whom he ministers for the sake of those to whom he, testifies of the Lord Jesus Christ. It's better that he stay for their good for their edification. And so if as you get older, the Lord sparing, you, you come to an age where the number of reasons to remain in this world seem to be shrinking.

Yet the one great reason remains to give testimony to the God who has carried you all the way through, the God, who has increased, his praise in your heart, who has increased his praise on your lips, who has saved you out of continual and increasing troubles. And you can testify of his righteousness and His strength, entire declare, your strength to this generation, your power, to everyone who is to come.

Also, your righteousness, O God. It is very high, you who have done great things. Oh God, who is like you and so please stop kicking that. And so,

And so we see the greatness of God's strength and the greatness of God's righteousness. And we say, oh God, it was like you but we don't just do that again for ourselves. We want the youth and the the the adolescent and the young adult in the middle ages. Don't we on everyone to be saying, oh God who is like you And so we conclude that.

As long as we are still in this world, One of the reasons so that we can testify of him. Now, look at verse 20, you who have shown me great and severe troubles shall revive me again. And bring me up again from the depths of the earth. He's not praising God for having had a trouble free life and there's nothing in the Bible that teaches that if you're wise enough or good enough or blessed enough, you'll have a trouble free life.

He's not just praising God for troubles and for saving him out of them, He's saving God for the greatness of the troubles. He's saving go. He's praising God. Did I say saving? He's praising God, for the greatness of the troubles. He's praising God. For the severity of the troubles.

He's praising God because God has brought him through troubles. That felt like death are made in feel like he was going to dire wanted to die. And God saved him out of those. And now he's coming to actually die. And he sees the wisdom of his God, who has given him, so many deliverances that were like resurrections because God has taught him, that he will have resurrection.

And now the character of the God who has dealt with him. Like that is, what is in front of his face? Is what is before his mind, as he comes to his old age? And as he's preparing to die, God has been showing himself to be the resurrection, God, to the psalmist throughout his lifelong.

And so one of the reasons for great troubles and severe troubles is because God is showing himself in the midst of our life, to be our resurrection, God. So that we will be more confirmed in holding to His character when we come to the end of our life, that we'll know him, with all our heart to be our resurrection.

God you who have shown me great in severe troubles, shall revive me again. And bring me up again, from the depths of the earth, You shall increase my greatness and comfort me on every side. It's talking about resurrection blessing. There, he's talking about glorification here, he has old. There's body is decaying.

He is about to leave. Has are fame. Generally it you know maybe not as much for David who probably wrote this Psalm. But our fame generally is as fairly quickly forgotten at least by the masses, but he's talking about having an increase of greatness because when the believer dies and they are glorified in Christ, There are acknowledged in heaven and then when there are resurrected and they are acknowledged even bodily and that adoption of sons, which is the redemption of our body.

We are made great with the greatness of Jesus and displayed as his bride, his body, his church. And when we depart from this life, all trouble is over. We're comforted verse 21B on every side and so he's looking forward to glorification and the perfect blessedness. And so there's one more thing that he has had his whole life long, which looks forward to the end of his life and that is public worship with the loot.

I will praise you and your faithfulness. Oh my god, to you. I will sing with the harp. Oh, holy One of Israel. So this is not God. Prescribing loots and hearts for pop loots and harps for public worship into. Perpetuity the loot and the harp or a priestly instruments.

There are instruments that were used when we were in assembly and being led by God's priest. Well we look forward not only to the weekly assembly in which we join from earth with the congregation of the firstborn. We look forward to passing from this world and being permanently in the congregation of the firstborn.

With the souls of, when we are the souls of the just made perfect and are there with the angels in Vestal gathering and are there with the angels and festival gathering. And when we are with God, our Father and we are with Christ, our mediator, whose blood speaks better than Abel.

So all of the worship assemblies on earth look, forward to that worship assembly in, which God Himself is in the midst as the holy One of Israel. That's your big key to this being corporate worship in verse 22. Holy One of Israel. But also harp and loot are looking forward.

So what will our corporate worship be like in glory? After he's saved us out of every trouble and especially out of death and then especially even after the resurrection, what will our corporate worship be like in glory after all those things and how does that inform what we try to worship?

How we tried to worship in the public worship in the Sabbath-keepings along. The way, My lips. So greatly rejoice, when I sing to you and my soul and the implication shall greatly rejoice. What you have redeemed? Okay. So we'll have resurrected lips, which the lips themselves seem to have a great rejoicing that is in addition to the rejoicing of the soul Rejoicing with the whole heart.

I heard someone recently talk about frozen chosen and, you know, some people have doctrine and some people have excitement, That is a bunch of absolute rubbish. That is from fleshliness, that doesn't embrace the doctrine, this doctrine of what worship is. This is hand in hand with regular principle in Jesus leading worship from heaven, and simplicity, and worship upon earth.

This doctrine teaches us rejoicing of lips, rejoicing of soul, rejoicing of the whole person in the public worship of God as it has led by Jesus, and that is how we should aim in all of our public worship week by week until the Lord brings us at last of the assembly.

You want to help the young one, or the youngest one worship? God, well in the public worship? One of the main ways of doing that is for her to see the older ones and the middle-aged ones and the elderly ones, full of resurrection joy. Before we get to resurrection day in the public worship of God.

My tongue also shall talk of your righteousness. All the day long for their confounded, for their brought to shame who seek my heart. My troubles are numbered. My troubleers are numbered, these things are great, and severe in my life. In order to set before me the resurrection character, the resurrecting character and the resurrection purpose of my God unto worshipping Him in the great assembly forever and ever.

I met let us pray.

Father, we thank you for the Psalm and what it reminds us. We should be learning about you and the Sun, and the spirit, our blessed resurrecting. God. Who live and reign from everlasting to everlasting and we adore. You who dwell an approachable light who are the only true God blessed forever.

Indeed! The Holy One of Israel. God, most high God Almighty our king, our Redeemer. Our shepherd who has saved us out of every adversity and the one who became flesh for us that you might become sin for us on the cross that we might become your righteousness in you in Christ.

So we bless your name and we ask that the purpose of justifying adopting sanctifying glorifying us for your praise forever. And ever that this would shape how we think about everything we do, how we receive trouble from your hand so that even the greatness of a trouble or the severity of the trouble would and large our hearts and loosen our tongues with praise for how Y is you are how righteous, how strong that everything we see you doing in our lives, would match everything that we have read and heard about you in your word that we would be continually saying.

Oh God, who is like you?

Granted we ask in Christ's name, Amen.