

Psalm 89: "Honour Your Covenant."

This royal Psalm is a prayer that God would honour the Davidic Covenant

1-4: Ethan's wholehearted belief that God is faithful was the basis for his appealing to the Lord in his dilemma. Since God made **covenant** promises to **David**, should not He, the faithful God, keep His promises?

2 Samuel 7:5-16 - *"Go and tell My servant David, 'Thus says the LORD: "Would you build a house for Me to dwell in? "For I have not dwelt in a house since the time that I brought the children of Israel up from Egypt, even to this day, but have moved about in a tent and in a tabernacle. "Wherever I have moved about with all the children of Israel, have I ever spoken a word to anyone from the tribes of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd My people Israel, saying, 'Why have you not built Me a house of cedar?'"'" "Now therefore, thus shall you say to My servant David, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts: "I took you from the sheepfold, from following the sheep, to be ruler over My people, over Israel. "And I have been with you wherever you have gone, and have cut off all your enemies from before you, and have made you a great name, like the name of the great men who are on the earth. "Moreover I will appoint a place for My people Israel, and will plant them, that they may dwell in a place of their own and move no more; nor shall the sons of wickedness oppress them anymore, as previously, "since the time that I commanded judges to be over My people Israel, and have caused you to rest from all your enemies. Also the LORD tells you that He will make you a house. "When your days are fulfilled and you rest with your fathers, I will set up your seed after you, who will come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. "He shall build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. "I will be his Father, and he shall be My son. If he commits iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men and with the blows of the sons of men. "But My mercy shall not depart from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I removed from before you. "And your house and your kingdom shall be established forever before you. Your throne shall be established forever."'"'"*

5-14: Ethan praised **the LORD** for His wonders, might, faithfulness, reign, protection, creation, righteousness, justice, mercy and truth

15-18: In view of God's attributes, the Psalmist spoke of the blessings of those who trust and fellowship with this marvellous God; **righteousness, strength**, protection and favour.

19-37: The Psalmist reminded the Lord that He had chosen **David**, a young **warrior**, to be His **anointed** servant. He was promised strength, faithfulness, protection, love, mercy, influence, discipline, and eternal reign.

38-45: In Ethan's mind, God had cast off His **servant**, the king had been afflicted and defeated in spite of God's covenantal promises, **broken** his vineyard **walls** and defences, made him weak in battle, strengthened **his** enemies, and **cast** down **his throne** in **shame**.

46-52: LORD, **how long, what, where...?** So the Psalmist's only hope was praying that God in His **love** and **faithfulness** would honour His word. God be honoured forever and ever.

Faced with the perplexing problem of the affliction and defeat of the anointed Davidic king, the psalmist implored the Lord to remember His oath and end this disaster. Ethan rehearses the covenant promises and God's divine attributes on which they rest. So the psalm is a study of the conflict between the promises of a faithful, loving God, and the catastrophes that often occur.

2 Corinthians 1:20 – *For all the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us.*

2 Corinthians 7:1 – *Therefore, having all these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.*

Psalms 37:34 - *Wait on the LORD, and keep His way, and He shall exalt you to inherit the land; when the wicked are cut off, you shall see it.*

Psalm 90: Comparing God and Man.

1-12: This portion of the psalm contrasts God and man.

God is the dwelling place; we're the homeless (dwellers).

God is the Father, men are children.

God is eternal, we're temporary like grass.

God is righteous, men are sinners.

So, teach us to know who we are and to number our days so we can be fruitful.

Psalms 39:4-6 - *"LORD, make me to know my end, and what is the measure of my days, that I may know how frail I am. Indeed, You have made my days as handbreadths, and my age is as nothing before You; certainly every man at his best state is but vapour. Surely every man walks about like a shadow; surely they busy themselves in vain; he heaps up riches, and does not know who will gather them.*

13-17 – Contrasting God's eternity with the shortness of human life, and confessing that man's days pass away in God's wrath, He then ask God for compassion having been in pain, satisfaction with mercy having been through God's judgment, gladness after a season of tears, glory/beauty from ugliness and establishment after wavering.

Isaiah 61:3 - *To console those who mourn in Zion, to give them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they may be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that He may be glorified."*