

The God Who Helps **Psalm 40:11-17**

INTRO:

In the first part of this Psalm we discovered how God helped David who waited upon Him. We learned while waiting upon God can be very difficult, we can trust Him to come through on His promises. David wrote in **verse 1**, ***“I waited patiently for the LORD; And He inclined to me, and heard my cry.”*** David waited and God answered. The last part of the Psalm, which we will explore today, looks forward to waiting upon God again.

I. David’s Assurance (v. 11)

II. Three Places God Helps (v. 12-16)

III. David’s Closing Plea (v. 17)

I. David’s Assurance (v. 11)

Psalm 40:11 (NASB95) *“You, O LORD, will not withhold Your compassion from me; Your lovingkindness and Your truth will continually preserve me.”*

A. David’s statement of faith opens the second part of his song. He knows, Yahweh David’s, God is faithful to him. Although David’s initial trouble is past, it does not mean that he will never have trouble again.

B. In God’s loving providence some endure suffering and trouble over and over again. Remember James’ statement in **James 1:2-3**.

“My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience.”

C. While some may seem to lead a charmed life, Trouble will probably come in God’s timing. Remember our job is to follow and not look around and question God (see **John 21**). When we are called to wait upon the LORD again we must hold on to this truth David grasped. God will never be unkind. He will not withhold His compassion from us. His steadfast love and truth is always with us.

II. Three Places God Helps (v. 12-16)

A. First, God helps with our sin and guilt.

vs.12-13 *“For innumerable evils have surrounded me; My iniquities have overtaken me, so that I am not able to look up; They are more than the hairs of my head; therefore my heart fails me. Be pleased, O LORD, to deliver me; O LORD, make haste to help me!”*

David, the man after God's own heart was painfully aware of His sin. This does not give us permission to sin. Rather it assures us that as we fight against our sin with His help, He is there to deliver and help. We must not ever stop fighting sin and seeking to please God. Yet, we must not ever allow sin to paralyze us. The LORD will help us overcome our sin!

B. Second, the LORD helps us when we are attacked by bitter enemies.

vs.14-15 *“Let them be ashamed and brought to mutual confusion Who seek to destroy my life; Let them be driven backward and brought to dishonor Who wish me evil. Let them be confounded because of their shame, Who say to me, ‘Aha, aha!’”*

David had enemies, we do also, they may not be as visible as his, but quite often they are there. We may have those at work who despise us because we try to please God. We may have those who backbite and whisper behind our backs, whoever they are. David prays that God will deal with them. And He will.

C. Third, God helps all those who seek Him

v.16 *“Let all those who seek You rejoice and be glad in You; Let such as love Your salvation say continually, ‘The LORD be magnified!’”*

The fact is God is providentially working in all the difficulties in our lives. Although we cannot see what God is doing, while we wait upon Him, even in the most dire of circumstances God is working out His plan in our lives. So, how do we respond in the midst of our situations? When good things we need to say, *“The LORD be magnified.”* When we bad things come into our lives, we need to say, *“The LORD be magnified.”* When we have no idea what is going on we need to say, *“The LORD be magnified.”* In all circumstances we say this because we know God is at work. God is faithful and we trust Him!

III. David's Closing Plea (v. 17)

A. David closes with a plea to God. (v.17)

*“But I am poor and needy;
Yet the LORD thinks upon me.
You are my help and my deliverer;
Do not delay, O my God.”*

B. One of the hardest things for us to do is to admit we cannot do it ourselves. God must help us. Sometimes He must do it for us. The Psalmist admits candidly his dependence upon God.

Psalm 86:1 *“Bow down Your ear, O LORD, hear me; For I am poor and needy.”*

Psalm 109:21-22 *“But You, O GOD the Lord, Deal with me for Your name's sake; Because Your mercy is good, deliver me. For I am poor and needy, And my heart is wounded within me.”*

This is not an excuse for laziness. But it is an acknowledgement of the reality of
John 15:5.

“I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.”

C. David then asserts a truth we must not ever forget. God alone is our only help.
v.17 “You are my help and my deliverer; do not delay, O my God.”

He is the only place we can run. Beside Him there is no other.

So, what do we do with all of this?

1. We must not be surprised when trouble pushes its way into our lives. The journey to the Celestial City is not an easy one. There will be Slough’s of Despond. Still, all the way the Lord is with us to protect us, provide for us, and to carry us through.

2. Sometimes God’s answer will be there before we even can pray. Other times, God makes us wait. All the way we walk by faith (trusting God) and not by sight.

3. In the good times as the bad we must continually say, ***“Yahweh be glorified!”*** We can say this because ***“He Himself has promised to never leave us or forsake us.”*** [Hebrews 13:5].

Hymn# 56 ***Day By Day***