



GOD, MY EXCEEDING JOY

A JOYFUL JOURNEY THRU THE PSALMS

November 8, 2020

Psalm 69 – HELP IN THE WHELMING FLOOD

I. GENRE: Lament of an Individual with Anticipation of National Praise

A. Ps 69 is one of the longest personal laments in all the Psalter, crying to God for deliverance and justice against a flood of adversities and evil enemies.

1. Ps 69 shares a number of phrases in common with Psalm 40, a song of thanks which recounts troubles in similar ways.
2. Ps 69 also shares similar Along with Pss 22 and 102 which laments of similar length and structure.

B. The final section of the psalm (vv. 30-36) strikes a very different note as David vows to bring a thank offering after receiving complete deliverance. God’s deliverance of him will also bring advantage to the realm and enable the cities of Judah to be built up.

C. SETTING & USAGE

A. **AUTHOR:** David.

B. **BACKGROUND:**

1. There are many generic references to David’s troubles but none specific.
 - a. He speaks repeatedly of being shamed by enemies, even to the point where his name was used in the songs of drunks (v. 12).
 - b. He was estranged from his family (v. 8) for what some viewed as excessive devotion to God’s house (v. 9).
 - c. Friends he thought would have helped him turned against him, making things more bitter for him (v. 21).
2. The troubles mentioned had to have occurred sometime after 1003 BC when David re-established the Tabernacle in Jerusalem.
 - a. He refers to God’s house (v. 9), his pledge to bring a thank offering (vv. 30-31), and the building up of Zion (v. 35).
 - b. His enemies might oppose his great plans to build the temple (1 Chr 28-29),

a massive campaign which his son would ultimately complete. The false accusations of theft (v. 4) might relate to claims of misappropriating money.

C. PLACEMENT:

1. Ps 69 is in many ways a counterpoint to Ps 68, a psalm for a victory procession. Ps 69 speaks of defeat, deceit, and disarray in the kingdom.
2. Pss 69-71 are all laments, preparing for the celebration of kingship in Ps 72, the end of Book II of the Psalter.

D. NEW TESTAMENT USAGE:

1. The NT quotes Ps 69 more frequently than all but 2 others (Pss 22, 110), often applying the wording to Christ.
2. The psalm is not a prophecy about Jesus (note David’s confession of sin in v. 5), but David’s experiences of unjust suffering set a type that Christ fulfills.

PSALM 69 IN THE NEW TESTAMENT		
Verse	NT Quotation	Application
v. 4	John 15:25	Jesus is opposed for no good reason
v. 9	John 2:17	Jesus is zealous to cleanse the temple
v. 9	Romans 15:3	Jesus is our example in identifying with God’s people and suffering for righteousness sake
v. 21	John 19:28-29 (cf. Matt 27:34; Mk 15:23, 36; Lk 23:36)	Jesus, thirsty for water, is given vinegar wine instead
vv. 22-23	Romans 11:9-10	Israel under a curse as enemies of the Lord’s anointed
v. 25	Acts 1:20	Judas was cursed for opposing the Lord’s anointed & did not appoint his own successor

III. STRUCTURE: Lament & Petition (1-29), Commitment & Confidence (30-37)

- A. The long section of lament is difficult to outline, but there are indicators that it should be divided into two parts.
 1. The repeated flood imagery (vv. 1-2; 13-15) begins new sections.
 2. References to God’s knowledge of his situation are found in the middle of the sections (vv. 5, 19).
 3. The “But I” statements (v. 13a, 29) create a contrast with the previous verses that close out each section.
- B. The closing verses (30-37) are a vow of thanks for the coming deliverance, anticipation of joy, and a call to praise.

<p>PSALM 69 © M. Scott Bashoor 2020</p>	<p>PURPOSE: During a long & painful time of trial, David seeks God’s deliverance from the underserved opposition he faces for his commitment to the Lord’s house, resting in God’s ultimate justice & His promise to build up the kingdom.</p>		<p>Type: Individual Lament with National Praise Author: David Date: Some time after Tabernacle’s restoration (c. 1003 BC) Note: One of the longest laments, and one of the most frequently quoted psalms in the New Testament</p>		
<p>HEADINGS</p>	<p>LAMENT & PETITION: PRAYERS FOR HELP IN THE MIDST OF ADVERSITY vv. 1-29</p>				<p>COMMITMENT & CONFIDENCE: CERTAINTY IN A JOYFUL END vv. 30-36</p>
<p>Authorization Consigned to the Sanctuary Choir Director</p> <p>Musical Note Shoshannim (Lit., “Lilies,” perhaps a tune name or musical style)</p> <p>Song Type “Psalm”</p> <p>Authorship David</p>	<p>Round One: Prayers about His Disorientation vv. 1-13a</p>	<p>Round Two: Prayers Calling for Reversal vv. 13b-29</p>		<p>Vow to Offer a Thank Offering for Deliverance vv. 30-33</p> <p>Anticipation of God’s Delight in His Offering vv. 30-31</p> <p>Anticipation of His Encouragement of Fellow Worshipers vv. 32-33</p> <p>Summons for Universal Praise for God’s Keeping of Israel vv. 34-36</p> <p>Call for the Creation to Praise v. 34</p> <p>Cause for the Praise: God’s Deliverance of Zion & the Development of the Judah vv. 35-36</p>	
<p>Lament of the Overwhelmed vv. 1-4</p> <p>Initial Plea for Help v. 1a</p> <p>Description of His Perils vv. 1b-4</p> <p><i>A Flood of Troubles</i> vv. 1b-2</p> <p><i>Weary from Unanswered Cries</i> v. 3</p> <p><i>Defenseless against False Accusations of Theft</i> v. 4</p>	<p>Causes of His Distress vv. 5-13a</p> <p>His Failures & Their Impact vv. 5-6</p> <p><i>God’s Knowledge of His Sin</i> v. 5</p> <p><i>Concern for Collateral Shame on His Associates</i> v. 6</p> <p>His Spiritual Commitments & Their Fallout vv. 7-12</p> <p><i>Persecuted for Righteousness</i> v. 7</p> <p><i>Estranged from his Household for Commitment to God’s House</i> vv. 8-9</p> <p><i>Ridiculed for His Piety in His Distress</i> vv. 10-12</p> <p>Confidence in God’s Acceptance v. 13a</p>	<p>Lament of the Overwhelmed vv. 13b-18</p> <p>First Cycle vv. 13b-15</p> <p><i>Appeal to God’s Lovingkindness</i> v. 13b</p> <p><i>Pleas for Deliverance from the Flood of Troublesome Enemies</i> vv. 13c-15</p> <p>Second Cycle vv. 16-28</p> <p><i>Appeal to God’s Lovingkindness</i> v. 16</p> <p><i>Pleas for Deliverance from His Distressing Enemies</i> vv. 17-18</p>	<p>Causes of His Distress vv. 19-21</p> <p>God’s Knowledge of His Distress v. 19</p> <p>Emotional & Physical Toll v. 20a</p> <p>Lack of Social Support v. 20b</p> <p>Bitter Betrayal from Feigned Friends v. 21</p>	<p>Prayers for Divine Reversal vv. 22-29</p> <p>Imprecation against Enemies vv. 22-28</p> <p><i>First Round: Overwhelming Wrath against their Wellbeing</i> vv. 22-25</p> <p><i>Reason: Exploitation of Those in Divinely Appointed Trials</i> v. 26</p> <p><i>Second Round: Unrelenting Judgment & Exclusion</i> vv. 27-28</p> <p>Final Request for Deliverance v. 29</p>	