

Psalms 25 (A Psalm of David)

¹ LORD Jesus¹,

I offer myself to You to be used as You see fit. ² I trust in You for my safety and security, so please rescue me, and don't let my enemies triumph over me. Otherwise, I will be ashamed that I put my trust in You, and my enemies will throw a big party to celebrate my demise. ³ Certainly, no one who eagerly looks to You for deliverance from evil men will ever be ashamed that they put their trust in You. On the contrary, those who betray the trust of another² will be ashamed in the end.

⁴ LORD, give me eyes to see and understand the way You orchestrate the events of my life, and teach me how to live godly in response. ⁵ Lead me down the path of knowing and doing what You instruct me in the Bible, and teach me all I need to know in order to live a good and godly life. I really want to know because You are the God who will deliver me, and I wait patiently every day for You to save me. ⁶ Please remember how You have a deep sympathy for those who are hurting or oppressed accompanied by a strong desire to come to their aid³. Remember also how You pour out Your tender love and kindness upon all of those who love You. You have displayed this kindness from eternity past, and You will display it forever. ⁷ I hope You will remember to be good to me, too, but please don't remember all of the sins I have committed during my youth and all the times I have overstepped my proper boundaries as an adult. Rather, in keeping with Your tender love and kindness remember me, and save me from oppression and persecution for the sake of Your good and holy name.

⁸ Everything You are and do is good, right, just, and fitting. Therefore, You teach sinners the right way to conduct themselves in this world. It is good that You are the One to teach them because You are perfect for the task. ⁹ You teach humble people to live in a manner where they give others what they rightfully deserve, and You teach them how to live a Christlike life. ¹⁰ Everyone who obeys Your Word is saturated with Your tender love, Your kindness, and Your truth. ¹¹ LORD, I need some of that tender love and kindness right now. For the sake of Your name and reputation, please forgive my sins and remove them completely from me because they are too heavy for me to bear. ¹² Who is the man who fears You enough to do good so that he will not disappoint You and avoids or abandons every sinful practice so that he doesn't break fellowship with You? He is the one who allows You to teach him how to make right choices that result in a good and godly manner of living, pleasing in Your sight. ¹³ You will cause him to flourish and prosper, and his children and grandchildren will inherit the land.

¹⁴ Intimate friendship with the LORD is reserved for those who fear You enough to do good and avoid sinful practices, and they are the ones whom You will teach the intricacies of both Your will and Your Word. ¹⁵ I am constantly looking for more and better ways to really know You in a personal, intimate way, because I really believe that someday You will pluck me out of the traps set for me by my enemies. ¹⁶ LORD, please, turn Your full attention to me, and show Your favor by saving me. Please do so, because I am all alone and filled with severe distress as a result of the pain and anguish my oppressors have forced upon me. ¹⁷ I am full and running over with hurts and heartaches. Please rescue

me and lift me out of the painful hardships my oppressors have heaped upon me. ¹⁸ Look at me and actually see all of the suffering and anguish I am enduring as well as all the troubles I am experiencing. Then take away all of my sins and do away with them forever. ¹⁹ Look and see how many enemies I have, because there are more than I can count. These people hate me and show it by doing bad things to me in a hateful and violent way. ²⁰ Protect me, and deliver me from them. Please don't allow them to succeed in causing my demise because then I will end up being disappointed and ashamed that I trusted in You to deliver me. ²¹ Let my firm adherence to the sound moral values found in the Bible <integrity> and the way I walk in a manner pleasing to the LORD <uprightness> be the things that preserve my life and reputation. I pray this will be acceptable in Your sight, because I wait eagerly for the day when You will actually save me from this awful oppression. ²² Please send Jesus Christ, the Messiah¹ back a second time to redeem Israel and deliver her from all of her troubles.

¹ For the sake of application, since Christ said in John 14:6, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me," the name "LORD Jesus" or "Jesus Christ, the Messiah" have been used.

² Definition for "treacherous" as stated on <https://www.dictionary.com/browse/treacherous>

³ Definition for "compassion", as stated on <https://www.dictionary.com/browse/compassion>

JLSParaphrase Copyright © 2004 by Jerry L. Simms
E-mail comments to proverbsguy@gmail.com
See our website at www.jlsparaphrase.org