

P
S
A
L
M
S

The
Songs
20

WORD CENTER MINISTRIES
WORDCENTERMINISTRIES.ORG
COPYRIGHT 2009 -2015 CALEB AND SHARON JENSEN

PSALMS - The SONGS

Twenty

We Will Trust in the Name of the LORD

READ AND OBSERVE

Read through **Psalm 20** and mark every reference to the LORD, including pronouns and synonyms, with a red triangle.

Read through **Psalm 20** and mark every reference to the psalmist (or king), along with all pronouns and synonyms, with a blue capital "P".

Read through **Psalm 20** and mark every reference to the characters defined as "we", along with all pronouns and synonyms, with a blue capital "W".

Read through **Psalm 20** and mark every reference to the Name of God, including pronouns and synonyms, with a yellow box filled in with light purple.

Read through **Psalm 20** and mark every reference to a petition with a green upward arrow.

Read through **Psalm 20** and mark every contrast with a pink diagonal line.

Read through **Psalm 20** and divide the passage into the following segments. Mark and title these segments in your text using brackets in the margin.

1. The petitions
2. The confidence
3. The outcome

READ AND ANSWER

Psalm 20:1-4

Who is speaking?

What are they doing?

For whom are they praying? (Who is the “you”?)

What do they ask for on behalf of the LORD’S anointed?

What is the “day of trouble”?



**The phrase “day of trouble” is used frequently in the Bible.
It refers *generally* to a time of great battle
It refers *specifically* to the Great Tribulation.**

**In David’s time there were constant wars,
but, as we’ve seen in so many of the Psalms,
this is most likely referring to the greatest battle of all—
the one in which the LORD will descend and save His people.
The one in which the Messiah will deliver the Jews from Jacob’s Distress.
The one in which Jesus Christ
will be victor over the antichrist and all the nations of the world.**

What do the people ask to happen to their king?

What will set him securely on high?

If the king is set securely on high in the day of trouble, what will have happened?

What is the “Name of the God of Jacob”?



The Hebrew word for “Name” is shem and is a primitive word that has the idea of a definite and conspicuous position. It means an appellation, a mark or memorial of individuality; honor, authority, or character.

**The Name of the LORD is all that He is—
His nature,
His attributes,
His character.**

The Name of the LORD is Who He is...

What do the people ask for the LORD to do for their king in regards to helping him?

Where do they ask the help to come from?

Why? What is the significance of help coming from the sanctuary as opposed to anyplace else?

Where do the people anticipate the king’s support will come from?

Why? What is the significance of help coming from the Zion as opposed to anyplace else?

What do the people ask the LORD to remember (or consider)?

What do the people ask the LORD to accept?



Meal offerings and burnt offerings were often offered by the king before departing to a battle.

**If the LORD accepted the offerings
it was a token of his favor and success in war.**

In asking the LORD to grant the king's "heart's desire" and fulfill all his counsel, what were the people petitioning?



**The Hebrew word for "counsel" is *etsah*
and means advice, plan, or purpose.**

Psalm 20:5

The petitioners redirect their prayer from supplication to a confident declaration of victory. What do they say they will do?

1.

2.

Whose victory?

What is the significance of setting up banners?

What is the significance of setting up banners in the Name of their God?

Who was their God?



Banners were flags or standards which were flown in announcement of victory.

What final request is made on behalf of the king?

Psalm 20:6-9

Who begins to speak in this segment?

With whom does he join in speaking?



In case you might have missed the setting of Psalm 20, let's go over it a little.

It appears that King David was about to go to battle—a fierce battle. He seems to have done what all good kings do— offered meal and burnt offerings to the LORD, and sought the LORD in prayer with petitions in hopes of gaining His favor so he could secure victory in the upcoming war.

This would have been done at the sanctuary, or tabernacle, in Jerusalem. The people of Israel would have gathered around him as he performed his pre-battle rituals. They seemed to have joined together in support by praying for him (verses 1-5).

In verse 6, the point of view changes from first person plural (we) to first person singular (I).

It appears that King David joins in the song (prayer) at the point of the people's confident declaration of victory. What does he assert?

From where will the LORD'S salvation come?



While the cry had been for help to come from Zion, (where God's presence dwelt in the tabernacle) we see that true help comes from the heavenly Zion.

The earthly Zion is only a picture of the real Zion, (where God dwells on His real throne). It was made after the pattern of the true Zion in heaven.

How will the LORD save His anointed?



The right hand is recognized as the hand of power.

What battle contrast is given in **verse 7**?

What is contrasted with chariots and horses?

Who trusts in chariots and horses (earthly weapons)?

Who trusts in the Name of the LORD, their God?

What happens to those who boast in chariots and horses?

1.

2.

What happens to those who boast in the Name of the LORD, their God?

1.

2.

What final petition is placed before the LORD in prayer concerning the upcoming battle?

Who needs to be saved?

In a glorious finale, Who is contrasted with King David?

READ AND REASON

The people were asking for God to save their king in battle.
In reality, they were asking *The King* to save *their* king.
So, once again, we find the **Psalms** (this time **Psalm 20**) prophetic in nature
as it looks forward to God's final victory over His creation through His King.

~ Segment by Segment

Try titling these segments yourself.
Ask God to help you.

Verses 1-4

Verses 5

Verses 6-9

~ Purpose of Psalm 20

Try to identify the purpose of Psalm 20.
The purpose simply states "why the Psalmist wrote the Psalm".

~ Theme of Psalm 20

Try giving Psalm 20 a title by identifying its theme.
The theme simply states "what the Psalm is about".
