

## Studies In Psalms by [John T Polk II](#) For [The Fellowship Room](#)

Psalm 70

12/21/12

Vs. 1: A call for speedy deliverance;  
Vs. 2-3: A request for opponents to be "turned back;"  
Vs. 4: A desire that those who change glorify God;  
Vs. 5: An appeal from the lowly.

These verses almost duplicate [Psalm 40:13-17](#). [Psalm 40](#) was written by David and prophetically described Jesus' death. [Psalm 70](#) projects the communication between God and Jesus just before Jesus died. For comparison, read both Psalms.

**Verse 1:** "God" (*Elohim*) is the same Deity as "LORD" (*Jehovah*). The call is for God to be "pleased" to hurry with deliverance, but not from the cross. "Now My soul is troubled, and what shall I say? 'Father, save Me from this hour?' But for this purpose I came to this hour" ([John 12:27](#)).

**Verse 2:** Sinners who see the error of their way have a sense of "shame." When Jesus "said these things, all His adversaries were put to shame; and all the multitude rejoiced for all the glorious things that were done by Him" ([Luke 13:17](#)). "Mutual confusion" is the same as "confounded," and simply expresses the desire for those who wrongly destroy Jesus, to see their error. Shortly after his conversion to Christ, "Saul increased all the more in strength, and confounded the Jews who dwelt in Damascus, proving that this *Jesus* is the Christ ([Acts 9:22](#)). The Gospel challenges the thoughts of sinners. "Turned back" shows a change of direction, "driven backward" indicates conviction to change, add these expressions and "repentance" is the result. Jesus' cross should cause those who understand its meaning and their own sins, to be driven back from their sins. After He was raised from the dead, "Then He said to them, 'Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem'" ([Luke 24:46-47](#)).

**Verse 3:** Those who would say, "Aha, aha" are the Gotcha people. "And as He said these things to them, the scribes and the Pharisees began to assail *Him* vehemently, and to cross-examine Him about many things, lying in wait for Him, and seeking to catch Him in something He might say, that they might accuse Him" ([Luke 11:53-54](#)). Listening for the wrong purpose causes people to not even hear what is said!

**Verse 4:** "But without faith *it is* impossible to please *Him*, for he who comes to God must believe *that* He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him" ([Hebrews 11:6](#)). "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened" ([Matthew 7:7-8](#)).



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**Verse 5:** Jesus Christ on the cross substituted Himself for sinners who are the "poor and needy." "For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit" (**1 Peter 3:18**). This Psalm ends with a statement both Jesus and a sinner can make. The sinner who repents can make the same acknowledgment that Jesus made: only God can deliver. Jesus, in death, committed His spirit to God (**Luke 23:46**). The sinner must commit his/her spirit into the hands of God's design. "Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been united together *in the likeness of His death*, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection" (**Romans 6:4-5**).

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