

Psalm 88

*A song
of the sons of Korah
to sing and strum*

*For the maestro:
Tune: Mahalath Leannoth
A wisdom song
of Heman the Ezrahite*

O LORD, the God of my salvation now,
Daily I cry to You for help, O Lord:
By night I come before Your face, O God,
So let my prayer now come before You, Lord!

Incline Your ear to my cry of distress,
Because my soul is full of trouble now:
My life is drawing near to Hades' gate:
I'm reckoned with those falling in the pit!

I'm like a strong man who has lost his strength:
I have no duty now among the dead:
Like those, the slain, who lie within the grave,
Whom You do not remember any more!

For they are cut off, O God, from Your hand.
You've put me in the bottom of the pit,
In utter darkness, in the gloomy depths,
Your wrath now rests upon me, Lord. Selah!

With all Your waves You have afflicted me:
You have removed my close friends far from me:
I am closed in, and I cannot get out:
In my affliction my eye wastes away!

I've called upon You, O LORD, ev'ry day,
And I have spread my hands out unto You,
And will You now do wonders for the dead?
Will they rise up and praise You now? Selah!

And will Your love be made known in the grave.
Your faithfulness in Abaddon's deep shade?
In darkness will Your wonders be declared,
Your righteousness known in forgetfulness?

And, as for me, I cry to You for help,
And in the morning, LORD, I pray to You.
Why? Why, O LORD, do You reject my soul?
Why do You hide Your smiling face from me?

I've been afflicted from my youth till now
I suffer terrors, I am overcome:
Your wrath has passed upon me, O my God:
Your terrors have destroyed my life, O Lord!

They swirl about me like a flood all day,
And they encompass me in ev'ry way:
Lover and friend are far away from me,
And darkness is my chief companion now!

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