

**Psalm 68 (69):1** Regarding completion. Over those that shall be changed. Pertaining to David.

<sup>2</sup> (1) Save me, O God, because waters came as far as my soul.

<sup>3</sup> (2) I was stuck in deep mire, and there is no foothold; I came into the depths of the sea, and a tempest overwhelmed me.

<sup>4</sup> (3) I grew weary of crying; my throat was hoarse. My eyes failed from hoping in my God.

<sup>5</sup> (4) They multiplied beyond the hairs of my head, those who hate me without cause; my enemies who persecuted me unjustly became strong. What I did not seize I would then repay. John 15:25

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<sup>6</sup> (5) O God, you knew my folly, and the wrongs I did were not hidden from you.

<sup>7</sup> (6) May those who wait for you not be put to shame because of me, O Lord, Lord of hosts; may those who seek you not be embarrassed because of me, O God of Israel,

<sup>8</sup> (7) because for your sake I bore reproach; embarrassment covered my face.

<sup>9</sup> (8) I became estranged from my brothers, a visitor to the sons of my mother,

<sup>10</sup> (9) because the zeal for your house consumed me, and the reproaches of those who reproach you fell on me. John 2:17; Romans 15:3

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<sup>11</sup> (10) And I bent my soul with fasting, and it became reproaches to me.

<sup>12</sup> (11) And I made sackcloth my clothing and became an illustration to them.

<sup>13</sup> (12) About me those who sit in a gate would gossip, and against me those who drink wine would make music.

<sup>14</sup> (13) But as for me, with my prayer to you, O Lord! It is a time of favor, O God, in the abundance of your mercy. Hearken to me with truth of (14) your deliverance.

<sup>15</sup> Save me from the mud so that I shall not get stuck; may I be rescued from those who hate me and from the deep waters.

<sup>16</sup> (15) Do not let a tempest of water overwhelm me or a deep swallow me up or a cistern close its mouth over me.

<sup>17</sup> (16) Listen to me, O Lord, because your mercy is kind; according to the abundance of your compassion look upon me.

<sup>18</sup> (17) Do not turn away your face from your servant; because I am in affliction, quickly hearken to me.

<sup>19</sup> (18) Pay attention to my soul, and redeem it; for the sake of my enemies rescue me.

<sup>20</sup> (19) For you know my reproach and my shame and my embarrassment; before you are all those who afflict me.

<sup>21</sup> (20) Reproach my heart expected-- and misery, and I waited for one that would sympathize, and none existed, and for comforters, but I did not find.

<sup>22</sup> (21) And they gave gall as my food, and for my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink. Matt 27:48; Mark 15:36; John 19:28-29

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<sup>23</sup> (22) Let their table become a trap before them, and a retribution and a stumbling block. Romans 11:9-10

<sup>24</sup> (23) Let their eyes be darkened so that they cannot see, and bend their back permanently.

<sup>25</sup> (24) Pour out upon them your wrath, and may the anger of your wrath overtake them.

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<sup>26</sup> (25) Let their steading become desolated, and let there be no one who lives in their coverts, Acts 1:20

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<sup>27</sup> (26) because they persecuted him whom you struck, and to the pain of your wounded they added.

<sup>28</sup> (27) Add lawlessness to their lawlessness, and let them not enter in your righteousness.

<sup>29</sup> (28) Let them be blotted out of the book of the living, and let them not be enrolled among the righteous. Phil 4:3; Rev 3:5, 13:8, 17:8, 20:12 & 15, 21:27

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<sup>30</sup> (29) Poor and in pain I am, and the deliverance of your face, O God, supported me.

<sup>31</sup> (30) I will praise the name of God with an ode; I will magnify him with praise.

<sup>32</sup> (31) And it will please the Lord more than a young bull calf bearing horns and hoofs.

<sup>33</sup> (32) Let the poor see it and be glad; seek God, and your soul shall live,

<sup>34</sup> (33) because the Lord listened to the needy and his own that are in bonds he did not despise.

<sup>35</sup> (34) Let the heavens and the earth praise him, sea and everything that creeps in them,

<sup>36</sup> (35) because God will save Sion, and the cities of Judea will be built, and they shall live there and inherit it.

<sup>37</sup> (36) And the offspring of his slaves shall possess it, and those who love his name shall encamp in it. (New English Translation of the Septuagint)

*There is wide recognition New Testament writers use the Old Testament in the following ways: (1) Direct Quotation, (2) Indirect Quotation, (3) Allusion, and (4) Echo.*

*Above is the Septuagint version of Psalm 69 (used by New Testament writers), as well as a list of agreed-upon instances where Ps 69 is referred to in the NT (there may be more).*

- A. Read the psalm with an eye to its original context. Try to determine what this would have been. Usually it is determined by the situation of the Psalmist.*
- B. Read the psalm again as a prophecy referring to the events of the New Testament.*
- C. Look up the references in the New Testament and determine if it is a direct quote, indirect quote, allusion, or echo.*
- D. Why do you think the NT writers used this Psalm as part of their narrative or argument?*
- E. What elements in the psalm might have prompted them to see it as prophetic?*
- F. Is there anything in this psalm which would prompt the NT writers to identify it with events of their time?*