

Mount Zion A.M.E. Church of New Brunswick, NJ  
06/09/2024

By Paul T. Bennett Church School Superintendent

# SUNDAY SCHOOL Quarter Preview

## Hope In the Lord: Experiencing Hope

### ■ 7/7 – **Lamentations 3:16-24**

Despite his despair at the destruction of Jerusalem, Jeremiah still had a message of hope that God would still restore His people after their exile

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# Hope In the Lord

## Expressing Hope

# Continual Proclamation

## Psalm 71:12 – 21

# Background

- There are over 150 Psalms that are broken down into 5 separate books
  - Book 1 (1-41)
  - Book 2 (42-72)
  - Book 3 (73-89)
  - Book 4 (90-106)
  - Book 5 (107-150)

# Background

- Most of the Book of Psalm was written by David, however there have been other contributors:
  - Psalm 27, 127 are attributed to Solomon
  - Psalm 90 is attributed to Moses

# Background

- Psalm 50, 73-83 are attributed to the family of Asaph
- Psalm 42, 44—49, 84—85, 87—88 are attributed to the Sons of Korah
- Psalm 88 is attributed to Heman
- Psalm 89 is by Ethan the Ezrahite

# Background

- The subject matter is very diverse, covering every human emotion and situation possible – from God and His creation, war, worship, wisdom, sin and evil, judgement, justice and the coming of the Messiah

# Background

- David also shares his most intense emotions of joy, sorrow, anguish and even cursing (imprecatory) on his enemies.
- The circumstances of Psalm 71 concern the rebellion of David's son Absalom

# Background

- Absalom was the 3<sup>rd</sup> son of David and his wife Maacha.
- They had a strained and ultimately tragic relationship where Absalom tried to take the throne from David (2 Samuel 13-19)



# Background

- Despite this family tragedy, David still puts his hope in God continually

# Commentary: From Faith to Hope

## Hope

= Faith + Sufferings +  
Perseverance + Character

START (FAITH)

FINISH (HOPE)

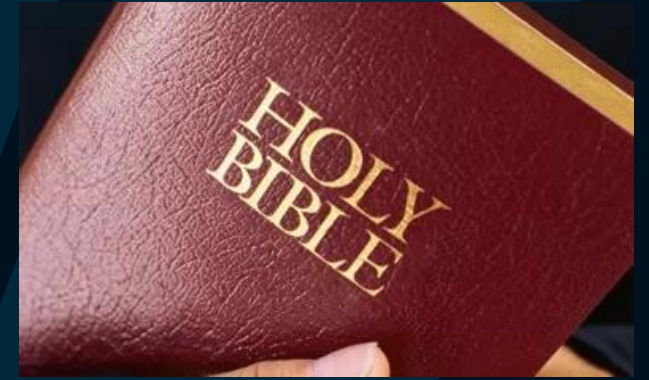
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# Lesson Text

## PSALM 71:12-13 (NKJV)

<sup>12</sup> O God, do not be far from me;  
O my God, make haste to help me!

<sup>13</sup> Let them be <sup>[a]</sup>confounded and  
consumed Who are adversaries of my  
life; Let them be covered with reproach  
and dishonor Who seek my hurt.



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# Lesson Text

## PSALM 71:14-15 (NKJV)

14 But I will hope continually, And will praise You yet more and more.

15 My mouth shall tell of Your righteousness And Your salvation all the day, For I do not know their limits.



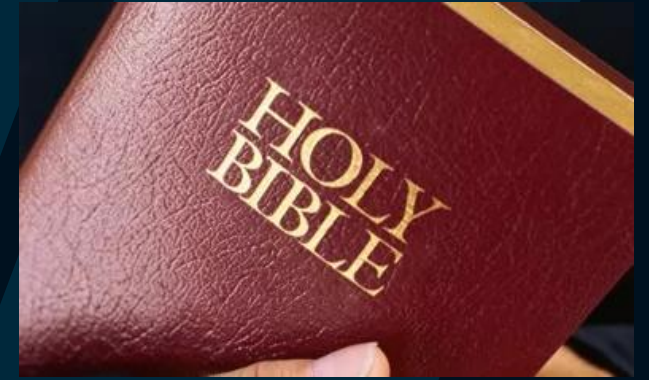
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# Lesson Text

## PSALM 71:16-17 (NKJV)

<sup>16</sup> I will go in the strength of the Lord God; I will make mention of Your righteousness, of Yours only.

<sup>17</sup> O God, You have taught me from my youth; And to this day I declare Your wondrous works.



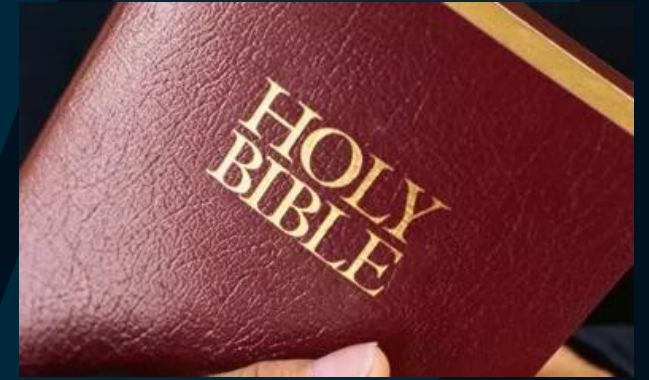
# Commentary: Train up a child

- David refers to his teaching as a youth to put his trust in God
- His son Solomon crystalized this teaching in **Proverbs 22:6**. While youth may depart for a time, they may return to it as it now serves David in his time of crisis

# Lesson Text

## PSALM 71:18 (NKJV)

<sup>18</sup> Now also when I am old and grayheaded, O God, do not forsake me, Until I declare Your strength to this generation, Your power to everyone who is to come.



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# Lesson Text

## PSALM 71:19 – 20a (NKJV)

<sup>19</sup> Also Your righteousness, O God, is [b]very high, You who have done great things; O God, who is like You? <sup>20</sup> You, who have shown me great and severe troubles, Shall revive me again,





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## Lesson Text

### PSALM 71:20b – 21 (NKJV)



<sup>20</sup> And bring me up again from the depths of the earth.

<sup>21</sup> You shall increase my greatness,  
And comfort me on every side.

# Commentary: Praise Him Anyhow

- How do we respond in crisis? Do we focus on the problem or look to the solution
- Our world is full of struggle and uncertainty. Will we give into our despair, or will we continually turn to God for our deliverance

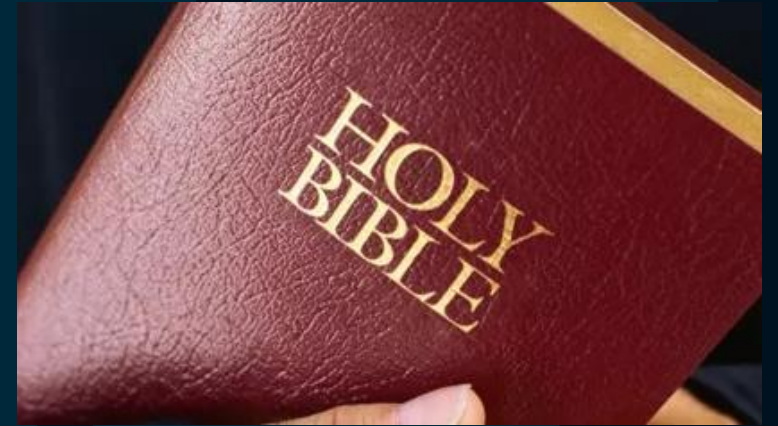
# Commentary: Praise Him Anyhow

- We will always have trouble (**John 16:33**)
- How we deal with that trouble is what matters.
- What is our attitude?
- How do we wait on the Lord?

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# Scripture References

## Refer to Slides



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# *Church School Creed*

Our Church School must grow & grow  
And we must help to make it so  
Every member a Christian  
Every Christian a worker  
Every worker trained  
A worker that will not be ashamed  
This we ask in Jesus' name

**-AMEN**

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# *Church School Benediction*

We have come

We have studied

We have learned

So until our next coming together

To study God's word

May His rich blessings reside with you

And may His Grace be eternally yours

**-AMEN**