

**LIVING BY FAITH**  
**"Hear My Prayer, O Lord"**

Psalm 143

*Aim:* To encourage believers to prayerfully trust God through adversity

*Series:* **Living by Faith** – Romans 1:17 – *The just shall live by faith.*

*Increase our faith* – It is not about quantity of faith but quality of faith.

*Teach us to pray* – It is about praying scripturally

*Hear us, O LORD* – It is about trusting ourselves to God through prayer

Facts about Psalm 143:

The background of the psalm was that David was acquainted with troubles –

Job 5:7 – *Man is born to trouble...*

The specific circumstance for the psalm is unknown

The purpose for the psalm is to instill in us confidence in God through prayer

**Psalm 143 is a good Psalm to pray when going through a trial or hardship.**

**1. David's Plea** – v. 1, 2a

*Hear my prayer, O Lord*

*give ear to my supplications* (pleas for mercy)

*answer me...*

*in Your faithfulness*

*do not enter into judgment...*

*in Your righteousness*

*with Your servant* (indentured servitude)

**2. David's Problem** – v. 2b,3

*No one living is righteous...*

*in your sight.*

*The enemy has persecuted my soul.* (pursued my soul) (1 Peter 5:7)

*He has crushed my life.*

*He has made me dwell in darkness.*

**3. David's Position** – v. 4

*My spirit is overwhelmed within me.*

*My heart within me is distressed.*

**4. David's Progression** – v. 5,6a

*I remember the days of old...*

*I meditate on all Your works.*

*I muse on the work of Your hands.*

*I spread out my hands to You.*

**5. David's Prerequisite** – v. 6b (condition, or terms of agreement)

*My soul longs for You like a thirsty land*

*Selah* (pause/ponder)

**6. David's Persistence** – v. 7

*Answer me speedily* (timely)

*Do not hide Your face from me*

**7. David's Petitions** – v. 8-12

*Cause me to hear Your loving-kindness*

*Cause me to know the way*

*Deliver me... from my enemies:*

*Teach me to do Your will*

*Lead me in the land of uprightness*

*Revive me*

*Bring my soul out of trouble*

*Cut off my enemies...*

*in mercy*

*cut off* (silence)

*Destroy all those who afflict my soul*

**8. David's Posture** – v. 2,12

*...with Your servant*

*For I am Your servant*

**9. David's Profession** – v. 6a,8b-c,9c,10b,11,12 (*Jehovah* = LORD)

*I spread out my hands to You (LORD)*

*For I lift up my soul to You (LORD)*

*In You (LORD) I take shelter*

*For You (LORD) are my God*

*For Your Name's sake revive me,*

*For Your righteousness' sake, bring my soul out of trouble*

*For I am Your servant*

**Summary**

As a servant of God we face adversity, and we only need to look past what we see with confidence in God, Who is in our Life and our Shelter and Deliverer. In crying out to God, we understand that God is there and that He hears us when we pray.