

Psalm 5

David reminds us that God is a God who hates wickedness and arrogance. Why would he include God's hatred of evil in his prayer? How does evil block access to the Lord?

David says we can't trust anything which comes from the mouths of the wicked. Why does he say that? Who comes to mind when he says this? How do we feel about people who lie and speak deceit?

David encourages us to take refuge in the Lord. Why do we especially need the Lord's protection? What makes the Lord's protection great? How do we sometimes forget the Lord blesses us and serves as our shield?

Psalm 6

Psalm 6 is the first of the penitential psalms in the psalms. These psalms usually confess sins that the author has committed, but this psalm does not make an explicit confession of sin but rather reflects a consciousness of sin as a source of affliction. Psalm 38 is an expanded parallel to Psalm 6. The words rebuke and discipline both refer to God's chastisement. Why doesn't David object to these things? What request does he make of God's chastisement? How is this hard for us to accept at times? How is it used for our benefit?

David literally says his bed is drowning with his tears and he feels worn out because of his sorrow. When have we drowned our beds with tears or felt worn out by our sorrow? How does our sorrow make us feel this way? Why does our sorrow make us feel this way?

Verse 8 brings a sudden and abrupt change in the psalm. What makes it sudden and abrupt? Why would this change happen? Psalms 3-6 are a group which could be prayed either in the morning or in the evening. What makes this a fitting end to these psalms?