

Bible Study

Psalm 71 Faith in the Later Years

True faith in the Lord Jesus Christ is faith that lasts through the years to the very end of life. Faith like this is faith that is rewarded abundantly with all the blessings that God has in store for his people in the future in his new creation. But faith like this will usually have to contend with many difficult and bitter obstacles in life. Psalm 71 reflects on faith in God in the later years.

Each person read the Psalm silently and then read it again aloud for all the group

1. What do verses 1 to 4 tell us about the author of the Psalm, and what is the psalmist expressing to his God?

2. What does the psalmist particularly express about the kind of relationship with God that he desires in verse 3?

3. What reason does the psalmist provide in verses 5 and 6 for his plea in verses 1 to 4?

4. How does the psalmist think other people view him in verse 7 and how does he respond to their view of him in verse 8?

5. What does verse 9 tell us about the psalmist and what does the psalmist fear?

6. Why does the psalmist express his particular feelings in verse 9 according to verse 10 and 11?

7. What do we see beginning to grow in verses 12 to 14?

8. How does the psalmist express his faith in God in verses 15 to 18?

9. In verse 19 the psalmist expresses his faith in praise to God. But what does the psalmist acknowledge before God in verse 20 and how does he respond to God in verses 20 and 21 despite his acknowledgement of verse 20?

10. In the last three verses from 22 to 24 the psalmist finishes his psalm at the high point of praise. What does this tell us about the faith of the psalmist despite his experiences in life?

11. How would you describe the author of psalm 71 ?

12. How do you hope your faith will be like in your final years, and what can you do now so your hope for your final years might be fulfilled?