

ALMIGHTY God, who has given us grace at this time to make our common supplications unto You; and promises that when two or three are gathered together in His Name He will grant their requests; Fulfill now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of Your servants as may be most expedient for them granting us in this world knowledge of Your truth and in the world to come life everlasting. Amen.

Psalm 62 For the director of music. For Jeduthun. A psalm of David.

¹ Truly my soul finds rest in God; my salvation comes from him.

² Truly he is my rock and my salvation; he is my fortress, I shall never be shaken.

³ How long will you assault me? Would all of you throw me down –
this leaning wall, this tottering fence?

⁴ Surely they intend to topple me from my lofty place; they take delight in lies.
With their mouths they bless, but in their hearts they curse.

⁵ Yes, my soul, find rest in God; my hope comes from him.

⁶ Truly he is my rock and my salvation; he is my fortress, I shall not be shaken.

⁷ My salvation and my honour depend on God; he is my mighty rock, my refuge.

⁸ Trust in him at all times, you people; pour out your hearts to him,
for God is our refuge.

⁹ Surely the lowborn are but a breath, the highborn are but a lie.
If weighed on a balance, they are nothing; together they are only a breath.

¹⁰ Do not trust in extortion or put vain hope in stolen goods;
though your riches increase, do not set your heart on them.

¹¹ One thing God has spoken, two things I have heard:
'Power belongs to you, God, ¹²and with you, Lord, is unfailing love';
and, 'You reward everyone according to what they have done.'

'Truly' (or 'only') begins five of the verses here.

Verses 3 and 4 give the target of the competitive evil to be weakness then strength. Weakness to be toppled over, strength to be envied and duplicitous. This is opposite to Godly compassion for those who are weak, as well as those who are in high pressure positions. False friends speaking one way, but secretly meaning another.

Verses 5 and 6 repeat the initial verses of 1 and 2, but with slightly different emphasis. This time the poet directs the reassurance to himself. To bolster his courage? To confirm his belief?

Verse 7 identifies the focus for the writer; the things precious to him are his salvation and his honour, and these are safely in the purview of God.

In Verse 8 the poet shares his gained wisdom; trust God!

The final two pairs of verses convey more gained wisdom –

Verses 9 and 10 pertain to worldly living. 'breath' is the same as 'vanity', and can equally be understood as being 'meaningless' or 'pointless'. Same focus can be found in James 4:14.

Verses 11 and 12 pertain to Godly living. 'power' belongs to God. 'unfailing love' is the opposite of breath, vanity, meaninglessness and pointlessness. Unfailing, steadfast and overall *true* love can only be found in God.

Further reading? Consider Ecclesiastes 1:1-11, Jeremiah 9:23, Mark 8:35-38.

Lord our God, of might inconceivable, of glory incomprehensible, of mercy immeasurable, of goodness unspeakable; O Master, look down on us in Your tender love, and show us and those who pray with us Your rich mercy and compassion. Amen. (**Prayers from John Chrysostom, 347-407**).