Prayer of an Afflicted One for Mercy on himself and on Zion.

"My days are like a shadow that declines; and I am withered like grass. But you, O Jehovah, will abide for ever; and your memorial name unto all generations. You will arise, and have mercy upon Zion; for it is time to have pity upon her, yea, the set time is come."
The reason it is so important to understand why David's life typified Christ's life is because we must all typify the life of Christ (see Romans 8:29). The more I know of Christ and his close associates, such as the apostles, the better equipped I will be to typify his life (1 Corinthians 11:1). David and Christ actually learned obedience and a meek spirit by the life of ill treatment they experienced (see Hebrews 5:8). Through Old and New Testament characters we learn how to be Christ like.

David's Special Relationship with God

Christians can all relate to the special relationship David had with God. David was confident that God was always with him. The king writes, "But you are the one who rescued me from the jaws of death; you have kept me alive from the forces of the enemy. I will sing to my God in the safety of his sanctuary..." (Psalms 68:19-20). David believed that he and God were friends that could rely upon each other. The king writes, "The friendship of Jehovah is with them that fear him; and he will show them his covenant" (Psalms 25:14).

David knew that he was just as special to God as God was to him. David writes, "I have set the LORD always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken" (Psalms 16:8). God granted all the desires of the king's heart. All of Israel even took note of the king's special care and relationship with God. Israel said, "2 you have given him his heart's desire and have withheld the request of his lips. Selah... He asked life of thee, and you gave it to him, even length of days for ever and ever" (Psalms 21:2-4).

Perhaps the beauty of David's relationship with God is best seen at Psalms 23. The king writes, "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want..." (Psalms 23:1). We have all felt that special relationship with God. We contemplate his great favor in our lives. He has granted us the desires of our heart. We are blessed beyond measure. We feel as though there is no tribulation too great to overcome when God is by our side. We do love him with all our hearts. Jesus said that the greatest commandment is to "Love the Lord God with all your heart" and such a command is something we embrace as did David (see Matthew 22:37).

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Part three of three next week: David faithfully waited on the Lord yet at times he sinned.