

## Psalm 21

**Title:** Praising After the Battle

**Author and Date:** David

**Key Verse:** Psalm 21:2

### **Outline**

- A. The king is blessed by the Lord (verses 1-7).
- B. The enemies are destroyed by the Lord (verses 8-12).
- C. The people are praising the Lord (verse 13).

### **Notes**

Title: “For the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David.” See the notes on Psalm 3 and Psalm 4.

Verses 1-2: The king joys and rejoices in the salvation provided by the Lord. Psalm 20 is a prayer before the battle. Psalm 21 is a praise after the battle is won. Psalm 21 acknowledges that the prayers of Psalm 20 have been answered. Note some parallels between these two psalms: the Lord’s strength (20:2 and 21:1, 13), the heart’s desire (20:4 and 21:2), the Lord saves (20:6, 9 and 21:1, 5), trust (20:7 and 21:7), and the enemies bowed down (20:8 and 21:12). The faithful people of Israel (see also verse 13) are praising God for the victory he has given the king (most likely King David). For “Selah”, see the notes on Psalm 3:2.

Verse 3: David wore a crown after his victory over the Ammonites (2 Sam. 12:30).

Verse 10: “Fruit” and “seed” refer to posterity (see 2 Sam. 12:31).

Verse 12: This is a description of the enemies running away from the Lord in retreat. “For they will turn and run when they see your arrows aimed at them” (NLT).

### **Questions**

1. What does the king rejoice in (verse 1)?
  
  
2. What has the king been given (verses 2-3)?
  
  
3. What has the king asked for (verse 4)?

4. What does the Lord lay upon the king (verse 5)?
5. What does the Lord make the king (verse 6)?
6. Who does the king trust in and what is the result (verse 7)?
7. What will the Lord do to the king's enemies (verses 8-9)?
8. What will happen to the posterity of the enemies and why (verses 10-11)?
9. What do the people praise (verse 13)?

### **Applications for Today**

1. We must never forget to praise God and thank him after he answers our prayers (verse 1).  
What was the problem with the nine lepers (Lk. 17:11-19)?
2. We need to articulate our desires and requests to the Lord in prayer (verse 2). What do we need to be careful asking for in prayer (Jas. 4:3)?
3. We need to put our trust in the Lord and in no one else or nothing else (verse 7). Who did Hezekiah trust in when he was surrounded by the enemy (2 Kings 18:5)?
4. We need to praise the strength and power of the Lord (verse 1 and verse 13)? Who gives us strength (Eph. 6:10)? What is God praised for (Rev. 19:1)?