

PSALM

# 17 LORD, hear my righteous plea

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1 LORD, hear my right-eous plea and lis - ten to my cry;  
2 De - clare me in - no - cent and vin - di - cate my name;  
3 Though you ex - am - ine me and probe my heart and mind,  
it does not rise de - ceit - ful - ly or come from lips that lie.  
LORD, may your eye see what is right and free me from all blame.  
and though you test me in the night, yet noth - ing will you find.

- 4 I said, "I will not sin  
in anything I say."  
From those who practise violence  
I have kept far away.
- 5 From every evil path  
by your word I'm preserved.  
My feet have held to all your ways;  
from them I have not swerved.
- 6 I call on you, O God,  
for you will answer me;  
O turn your ear towards my prayer  
and hear my earnest plea.
- 7 Display your steadfast love  
and save with your right hand  
all those who flee for help to you  
when foes against them stand.

## LORD, hear my righteous plea

- 8 In shadow of your wings  
hide me in times of strife;  
and as the apple of your eye  
preserve and guard my life.
- 9 Hide me from ruthless foes  
who follow wicked ways,  
from those who circle me about  
and seek to end my days.
- 10 They close their callous hearts;  
they speak with swelling pride.  
They dog my steps; my enemies  
are found on every side.
- 11 They fix their eyes on me  
to cast me to the ground.  
Like hungry lions stalking prey,  
they crouch without a sound.
- 12 Arise, confront my foes  
and bring them down, O LORD;  
deliver me from wicked hands  
and free me by your sword.
- 13 Save me by your right hand  
from all such people, LORD,  
from mortal men who in this life  
will have their sole reward.
- 14 You fill them with good things;  
their sons are satisfied.  
They leave their children all the wealth  
which they have set aside.
- 15 But I in righteousness  
your face will surely see;  
and with your likeness, when I wake,  
I satisfied will be.