

Psalm 28: The Lord is the strength of his people



Psalm 28 (27) (Mode 3. 3....12 / 4.....271)

This is an urgent plea that God will confront the wicked, and continue, like a shepherd, to watch over the king and bless those who act with justice. We hear the cry of the Lord's anointed king (verse 8).

I call on you, Lord, my rock.

Do not refuse to hear me.

Do not be silent.

Without you I will die.

As Christians we can hear Jesus crying out in his agony and on the cross, his piercing cry met only with the silence of God.

This is so often the case for us as well, for ultimately God is beyond all words.

Hear the sound of my pleading,
as I cry to you for help,
as I lift up my hands in prayer
toward your temple.

‘Your temple’

[Hebrew d^ebir, דְּבִיר; Greek naos, ναός]

the inner sanctuary, that is to say the Holy of Holies,
where the ark of the covenant and its cover,
the mercy-seat (The Lord’s throne), were located.

‘Lift up your hands to the holy place,
and bless the Lord’(Psalm 134:2).

Do not drag me away
with the wicked, O Lord,
with those who speak peace to their neighbours,
while mischief is in their hearts.

The following four lines are not in the liturgy

Repay them according to the evil they do.

Give them what they deserve.

They have no regard for what the Lord is doing.

God will break them down for ever.

Blessed be the Lord
who hears the sound of my pleading.
The Lord is my strength and my shield,
in whom my heart trusts.

When help comes to me, my heart exults,
and with my song I give God thanks.
The Lord is the strength of the people,
the saving refuge of God's anointed.

of his people = Greek Septuagint version **tou laou autou**

Hebrew has לָמוֹ ('to him') should be לְעַמּוֹ ('to his people').

Help your people, and bless your heritage.
Sustain them. Be their shepherd for ever.