PSALM

44

XLIV

Communal Lament

Sons of Korah · Book II

"For the Chief Musician. By the sons of Korah. A contemplative psalm."

PICTURE WORD

Sheep

IN ONE SENTENCE

Israel recalls how God gave the land, yet now suffers defeat and cries to him to rise up and redeem them.

Remember it: Forty-four: sheep for the slaughter cry, "Rise up, LORD, redeem us!"

MEMORY VERSE

Rise up to help us. Redeem us for your loving kindness' sake.

Psalm 44:26 · World English Bible

HEBREW WORD

קוּמָה

"rise up" · verse 26

In the Psalms: 51 times, in 38 psalms

קוּמָה means "rise up!" It is the cry Moses raised whenever the ark set out: "Rise up, LORD, and let your enemies be scattered" (Numbers 10:35). Israel asks God to stand up and act, and appeals to his loving kindness.

HOW THE PSALM MOVES

1–8	Israel recalls how God, not their sword, gave them the land.
9–16	Now God seems to reject them, and they suffer shame.
17–22	They insist they have stayed faithful to his covenant.
23–26	They cry for God to wake up and redeem them.

IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

v. 22 → Romans 8:36 For your sake we are killed all day long, yet we are more than conquerors.

MY NOTES

Listen. Hear Psalm 44 sung in the **Psalm Song** app, or free at **ispress.de/psalms/44**.

Cantillated. Sung: chanted back and forth between a leader and the people.

Crying Out in Distress · Israel's Story · God Will Not Abandon You

FILL IN THE BLANKS

Israel recalls how God gave the _____, yet now suffers _____ and cries to him to rise up and _____ them.

CHECK YOURSELF

1. How did the fathers get the land?

- (A) By their own sword
- (B) By God's right hand and the light of his face
- (C) By buying it
- (D) By making treaties

2. What does the psalmist say he will not trust in?

- (A) His bow
- (B) His God
- (C) His fathers
- (D) His king

3. What are God's people regarded as?

- (A) Lions in the forest
- (B) Stars of heaven
- (C) Sheep for the slaughter
- (D) Grass of the field

TALK IT OVER

1. How does verse 9 turn the psalm in a new direction?

2. What does it teach that God's people may suffer even when faithful? See Romans 8:36.

3. How can you be honest with God when he seems silent or asleep?

IN YOUR OWN WORDS: WHAT DOES PSALM 44 TEACH?

- ☐ I listened to the song
- ☐ I can say verse 26 by heart
- ☐ I can say what it teaches
- ☐ I know the picture word

Answers Blanks: land · defeat · redeem · Check yourself: 1. B (v. 3) · 2. A (v. 6) · 3. C (v. 22)