

Covenant Lament Collapse

Ethan the Ezrahite · Book III · Royal Psalms

"A contemplation by Ethan, the Ezrahite."

IN ONE SENTENCE



will sing of the LORD's steadfast love; he swore an unbreakable covenant with David, though the king now seems rejected.

Remember it: Eighty-nine: when the crown is in the dust, God's covenant love still stands.

MEMORY VERSE

Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne. Loving kindness and truth go before your face.

Psalm 89:14 · World English Bible

HEBREW WORD

חַסֵּדִי

"steadfast love" · verse 1

In the Psalms: 129 times, in 54 psalms

חַסֵּדִי is God's steadfast, loyal love, the love that keeps a covenant promise. The singer opens with it, and it comes back again and again as God swears to David. When the king seems cast off, the cry in verse 49 is, where is that love? The answer rests on God's oath.

HOW THE PSALM MOVES

1-4 I will sing of God's love and his covenant with David.

5-18 The LORD is incomparable, ruling sea, heavens, and earth.

19-37 God's oath: David's throne will endure forever.

38-51 Now the king seems rejected; how long, LORD?

52 Blessed be the LORD forever. Amen and Amen.

IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

v. 20 → Acts 13:22 God found David, a man after His heart; from him came Jesus.

MY NOTES



Listen. Hear Psalm 89 sung in the **Psalm Song** app, or free at ispress.de/psalms/89.

Composite. Sung and preached: it moves from one mode into the other.

The King & the Messiah

Israel's Story

Crying Out in Distress

FILL IN THE BLANKS

I will sing of the LORD's _____ love; he swore an unbreakable _____ with David, though the king now seems _____.

CHECK YOURSELF

1. To whom did God swear a covenant?

☐ (A) Moses

☐ (B) Abraham

☐ (C) David

☐ (D) Solomon

2. What are the foundation of God's throne?

☐ (A) Righteousness and justice

☐ (B) Gold and silver

☐ (C) Armies and chariots

☐ (D) Fire and cloud

3. What would God do if David's children forsook his law?

☐ (A) Break the covenant

☐ (B) Punish their sin with the rod but keep his loving kindness

☐ (C) Choose another family

☐ (D) Forget them forever

TALK IT OVER

1. Compare God's promises in verses 28-37 with the complaint in verses 38-45. What changed?

2. How does Jesus, the Son of David (Acts 13:22-23), answer the question of verse 49?

3. When God's promises seem to have failed you, how can you still say "Blessed be the LORD"?

IN YOUR OWN WORDS: WHAT DOES PSALM 89 TEACH?

☐ I listened to the song

☐ I can say what it teaches

☐ I can say verse 14 by heart

☐ I know the picture word

Answers: Blanks: steadfast · covenant · rejected · Check yourself: 1. C (v. 3) · 2. A (v. 14) · 3. B (vv. 30-33)