

Best Wishes for the New Year

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I. Introduction.

- A. Text: Psalm 20.
- B. This psalm was sung for the king before he went out to battle.
- C. It is designed to teach us how a king and a priest ought to act.

II. The king was going into a day of battle.

- A. We do not know what lies ahead, but as the king knew, it would be tough.
- B. Only God is adequate to the situation—the God of Jacob who helps us outside of manipulation.
- C. The God of Jacob sends us help from the place where we meet with God—the Scriptures.
- D. All the invisible help that God can give you in the day of trouble is made available by prayer.
- E. The basis upon which we receive help is sacrifice—the work of the Lord Jesus.
- F. The extent to which the help is available—the heart’s desire.
 - 1. The extent to which the heart is in line with the word is the extent to which the help is available.
 - 2. God will achieve your heart’s desires.
- G. We will face tough things in the new year, but there are others to encourage you and help bring you to victory.

III. The king responds with steady confidence even before he goes to battle.

- A. The mark of a Christian is one who is completely fearless, continually cheerful and constantly in trouble.
- B. Our source of confidence is the Lord of glory.

Application questions:

- 1. How does the death of Jesus work into help we may seek to meet us in our distress?

2. What qualification must be made in asking God for help? Explain.

3. What situations could you use a certain dose of confidence? How will you obtain it in light of the message?
