

Part 3 – Not Forsaken When Repentant

In part 2 we learned that, even though David sinned at times, his heart never truly departed from the Lord (YHWH). That is why his conscience tormented him when he sinned and also why the Lord (YHWH) chastised David; for our Heavenly Father's chastisements are always for our good. He chastens us to turn us away from evil and back to Him. And David confessed that he knew he wasn't telling the Lord (YHWH) anything He didn't already know, when David was 'pouring his heart out' to Him. After all, our Heavenly Father knows about *all* our sins, for He can see what goes on in our heart (desires, emotions, intentions and motivations) and mind (thought process) (Ps 11), so there's never any sins that are 'secret' from Him. But, part of making a good repentance is indeed confessing your sins to Him, even though He already knows them; because we must come to the point where we don't want to sin anymore. We must understand how sin harms us and humbly accept that God's ways are truly holy and righteous. That's why, though the Lord (YHWH) instant forgives us, we must study His Word, and absorb it into our heart and mind, in order to be cleaned spiritually. Thus, true repentance isn't just about saying you are sorry, it's also about accepting the Lord's chastisements and sincerely turning away from our sins; working to put off your evil thoughts, desires, emotions, words and deeds. And we must put truth in our soul and spirit in order to do so. David also continued on to tell the Lord about his problems. He felt as though his whole life was in shambles and had no strength left (physically or spiritually) to handle it. Even his friends and family didn't want to be around him due to his physical ailment that was apparently rather gross. And his enemies were rejoicing over his health issues too; using his 'being down' to work even more zealous against him. Yet, David held his peace and didn't lash out at them because he knew he needed to get his heart right with God before asking Him to 'take care of' his enemies. And that's *exactly* what he is doing in this Psalm. He was ready to 'give up' all self-reliance and truly trust in the Lord's mercy; and he thus believed the Lord would take care of his enemies (take vengeance on them for David) *in due time*. So, let's continue on in this Psalm to see what else David says...

Psalm 38

17 For I am ready to halt, and my sorrow is continually before me.

The word '**halt**' here means *a limping* or *full* (#6761) and the word '**ready**' means (in the context of this verse) *to set up* (#3559). And the word '**sorrow**' means *anguish* or *affliction* (#4341) and comes from a word that means *to feel pain, to grieve* or even (figuratively) *to spoil* (#3510). And the word '**continually**' means not only *continuance* but also *constant* or *constantly* (#8548). The same word (#6761) for 'halt' here was also translated as 'adversity' in Ps 35:15 when David wrote that: *in mine adversity they rejoiced, and gathered themselves together: yea, the abjects gathered themselves together against me, and I knew it not; they did tear me, and ceased not*. So, in this verse 17, David is saying he will fall *all the way down* unless the Lord helps his spirit. He needs some peace for his soul. But, to those who love and obey the

Lord (who repent sincerely and turn back to Him), our Heavenly Father promises that He'll never let us be 'cast down' (fall all the way down, as David felt he was about ready to do). As we learned in the last chapter...

23 The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way.

24 Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down: for the LORD upholdeth him with his hand.
Ps 37:23-24

Though, at times in our life, we might waver a bit (as David was doing), when we truly love our Heavenly Father, He won't let us be cast down so that we're totally 'down and out'. He also won't let us fall back to habitual sin (rebellion against God) if we don't let loose of our faith in Him. As Jude 24 says, Jesus Christ *is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy*. Because Jesus Christ has lived in a flesh body, He knows what it's like. He knows how hard it is to fight the carnal mind (the part of us that wants to sin) and yet, he also knows how to overcome it, because He never sinned. As Heb 2:18 says, *for in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted*. Through Jesus Christ's interceding on our behalf (Rom 8:26-34), the Lord keeps us from falling totally away from Him. And, as Eph 3:20 also points out, He *is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us*. The 'power' that works 'within us' is the Holy Spirit. He is able to raise our heart and mind up to a higher level of thinking so we don't *want* to sin anymore *and* helps us understand His Word, so we can learn to do what's right, no matter the circumstances. So, David is reaching out to the right Person here; he knows that the Lord (YHVH) is truly the only one who can help him back up, even when he is so 'low'.

Psalm 38

18 For I will declare mine iniquity; I will be sorry for my sin.

Now David finally comes around to repenting for his sins! This is the first part of *true* repentance. But, as we've learned before, in order to *wholeheartedly* repent, we must also study God's Word *and obey it*. We've got to truly be ready to change our crooked and perverse heart and mind as well as our sinful actions and words. We have to be *serious* about stopping our sins and changing our life from the 'inside out'. Only trying to change your actions is not being sincere. True 'good works' come from a person who has changed the way they think, and what they desire, *to align with God's Word* (His righteousness). And that's why it's vital to study His Word, meditate (think about) it and absorb it into the way we think and what we desire. When we do this sincerely, and diligently, each day, the Holy Spirit *will* help us change from the 'inside out'. And He'll also give us peace of mind. As Isa 26:3-4 says, *Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee*. The words 'perfect peace' are

the Hebrew word *shalom* or *shalom* (#7965), which means: *safe*, i.e. (figuratively) *well, happy, friendly*; also (abstractly) *welfare*, i.e. *health, prosperity, peace*.

Notice also the ‘two parts’ to his repentance. He first says he’ll ‘declare’ (make manifest by announcing, #5046) his iniquity (perversity and evil doings, #5771) and be sorry (even anxious, #1672) for his sins (his offenses, #2403). Back in chapter 32, another chapter where David taught us how to make a good repentance, we also saw the words ‘iniquity’ and ‘sin’ being confessed along with ‘transgressions’. So, let’s take a moment to review what we learned from that important verse...

Psalm 32

5 I acknowledged my sin unto thee, and mine iniquity have I not hid. I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the LORD; and thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin. Selah.

After his conscience had tormented him for long enough, David finally acknowledged his sin. The word ‘**acknowledged**’ here is a prim root that means *to know*, even to ascertain by seeing, including observation, care, recognition (#3045). The *Companion Bible* points out that this infers that David finally made up his mind that he would acknowledge his sin to the Lord (YHWH). It’s a funny thing, but many people don’t realize that there really are no ‘secret sins’ with our Heavenly Father. He (and only He) can read our heart and mind, so there’s truly no hiding anything from Him (even what we’re thinking or desiring, let alone what we’ve done) as we learned back in Psalms 11:4-5. As David would later tell his son, Solomon: *the LORD searcheth all hearts, and understandeth all the imaginations of the thoughts: if thou seek him, he will be found of thee; but if thou forsake him, he will cast thee off for ever* (1 Chron 28:9). And 1 Kings 8:39 says, *for thou, even thou only, knowest the hearts of all the children of men*. And in Jer 16:17, the Lord (YHWH) also says: *For mine eyes are upon all their ways: they are not hid from my face, neither is their iniquity hid from mine eyes*. Ps 90:8 also says (speaking to the Lord): *Thou hast set our iniquities before thee, our secret sins in the light of thy countenance*. And Eccl 12:14 also points out that *God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil*. Jesus confirms this when He said that *there is nothing hid, which shall not be manifested; neither was any thing kept secret, but that it should come abroad* (Mark 4:22). And 1 John 3:20-21 says that *if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things. Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God*. The word ‘greater’ here means ‘larger’ (#3187). Our Heavenly Father’s heart, and mind, is indeed larger (*much* larger) than ours (Isa 55:7-9) and is well able to look *deeply* into the *most inner parts* of our thoughts (mind) and desires (heart) (Heb 4:12), so there’s absolutely no hiding anything from Him.

However, we often like to fool ourselves. And until we’re ready to acknowledge our sins *to Him*, by confessing them to Him in prayer, then we’re not going to get any peace of mind (or heart)

from Him. And while James 5:16 tells us to confess our faults one to another, the context of that verse is when asking for others to pray for us when we're struggling with a sin. If you have a very trusted friend, then this is ok. But most of the time, it's best to confess your sins directly to our Heavenly Father *in prayer* because truly, that's the only place you can find forgiveness. Confessing your sins to someone else (even if they are a Pastor or a Priest, etc.) cannot bring forgiveness, nor peace of mind. It might be helpful at times but it's not how we obtain forgiveness and you should make dang sure the person you are 'confessing' to is truly someone you can trust. But the reality is, 'confession' is truly a communication that has to take place *in your own soul, between you and your Heavenly Father*. So, David finally comes to that point. And interestingly, when he says that he acknowledged his 'sin' to the Lord (YHVH), the word 'sin' in this verse is a different Hebrew word than it was in verse 1. In verse 1 (of Ps 32) it was *chata'ah* (#2401), which means *an offence*, or a *sacrifice for it* and comes from *chet'* (#2399), which means *a crime or its penalty*. But in 32:5 (and in this Ps 38:18) it's *chatta'ah* or *chatta'th* (#2403), which also means *an offence* and can even mean *habitual sinfulness*; but also means *its penalty, occasion, sacrifice, or expiation*; also (concretely) *an offender*. And it comes from the prim root *chata'* (#2398) which means, *to miss*; hence (figuratively and generally) *to sin*; by inference, *to forfeit, lack, expiate, repent*, (causatively) *lead astray, condemn*.

So, David is saying he not only 'missed the mark' (of righteousness) but he also committed a crime against the Lord (YHVH). And he goes on to say that he wasn't trying to hid (cover, #3680) his iniquity (moral evil, perversity, corruption - #5771) from Him anymore because he had 'made up his mind' to 'confess' (throw away, #3034) his 'transgressions' (rebellion, #6588) to (against) the Lord (YHVH). And, importantly, because David was willing to finally acknowledge (both to himself, and to the Lord) and confess his sins (breaking God's Laws) and iniquity (moral corruption) - the Lord 'forgavest' (lifted away through atonement via his faith in Jesus Christ #5375) the 'iniquity' (moral evil, perversity, corruption - #5771) of his 'sin' (his offense - breaking of God's Laws, #2403). But, to reiterate, when you confess to the Lord, *you're not telling Him anything He doesn't already know*. The point is that **you** must come to terms with the fact that **you've** sinned and be ready to repent sincerely for them. And what this *also* means is that we *must also* be ready to accept the *chastisement* for our sins, as well as study His Word so our spirit (heart and mind) can be cleansed; for as Prov 16:6 says, iniquity is only purged (cleansed) by God's mercy *and truth*. And so, even though we have obtained forgiveness from God (instantly upon repentance), that *doesn't mean there won't be chastisement*. And again, this is simply because: **even though we've repented, we still must be spiritually cleansed from them**. And being chastised does indeed cleans us spiritually. Learning to endure hard times (even when we bring them upon ourself) immensely helps to clean our soul (along with studying God's Word, of course), because we've got to *learn truth* (or be reminded of it), grow in faith and learn to trust in the Lord, even through the hard times. As Paul so beautifully explained...

5 *And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him:*

6 *For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth.* [quoted from Deut 8:5]

7 ***If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?***

8 *But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons.*

9 *Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: **shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live?***

10 *For they verily for a few days chastened us after their own pleasure; **but he for our profit, that we might be partakers of his holiness.***

11 *Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous; nevertheless **afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.***

Heb 12:5-11

So, confession and repentance also require that the one who is asking the Lord (YHVH) for forgiveness to be ready to accept the chastisement - because chastisement is what helps to clean our soul - for the hard times tend to help us to seek our Heavenly Father (from which truth flows) much more intensely and (again) truth is what cleans our soul (John 15:3, 17:9). Learn more in the special study on **Cleansing from Secret Sins** [<https://t.me/BibleStudyTruth/1571>]. Further, we have a beautiful example of how true confession (and acknowledgement) of sin, iniquity and transgression brings divine forgiveness *immediately*, but also follows with chastisement; and it's found through David's own life. You can read of it in 2 Sam 12:1-14. So, to repent *wholeheartedly* means that you not only accept (humbly) your chastisement but also strive sincerely, diligently and consistently (daily) to study and understand His written Word, so you can learn how to cast off your sinful thoughts, desires, emotions, intentions and motivations and do what's right, from the heart.

Psalm 38

19 *But mine enemies are lively, and they are strong: and they that hate me wrongfully are multiplied.*

Again, David references his enemies and that's because he's now imploring the Lord for help with them. He points out that his enemies are 'lively', meaning they are very healthy (#2416), unlike David at this point in his life. And they are also strong, which means to be powerful and/or numerous (#6105). And they also hate him *wrongfully*. Again, that's because the wicked ones hate those who love the Lord (YHVH) because they hate the truth within them (John 3:19-21). And this isn't the only time David has implored the Lord for help with enemies who hate him without a cause (meaning, he has done nothing to 'wrong' them, nor harmed them in any way). In Ps 69:4 he said, *they that hate me without a cause are more than the hairs of mine head*:

they that would destroy me, being mine enemies wrongfully, are mighty. And in Ps 109:3 he says that *they compassed me about also with words of hatred; and fought against me without a cause.* And in Ps 35:19 he pleads, *let not them that are mine enemies wrongfully rejoice over me: neither let them wink with the eye that hate me without a cause.* And, as we've also learned in our studies in the Psalms, there were indeed many times in David's life when people hated him without a cause. Which again means he didn't do anything wrong to them; he had not hurt them or slandered them; he had committed no sin against them personally. The many years Saul, and the Israelite army, chased after David in the wilderness – literally trying to kill him – were one such example. But, even when Absalom and Israel rebelled against David, that too was uncalled for. And of course, because David is a type of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, Jesus was also hated without a cause. Jesus Christ never sinned at all (Heb 4:15, 2 Cor 5:21, 1 Peter 2:22, 1 John 3:5) and therefore there was *no just reason* for anyone to hate Him, *yet they did.* And further, all who love and serve Jesus Christ will also be hated without a cause, as He has warned us...

*20 Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord. **If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you;** if they have kept my saying, they will keep yours also.*

*21 But all these things will they do unto you for my name's sake, **because they know not him that sent me.***

22 If I had not come and spoken unto them, they had not had sin: but now they have no cloke for their sin.

*23 **He that hateth me hateth my Father also.***

24 If I had not done among them the works which none other man did, they had not had sin: but now have they both seen and hated both me and my Father.

*25 **But this cometh to pass, that the word might be fulfilled that is written in their law, They hated me without a cause.***

John 15:20-25

Jesus was quoting from David's Psalms (35:19, 69:4) to point out that it was prophesied that people would hate Jesus Christ without a cause, just as they had to followers of the Lord (YHVH) so many years before Jesus came. Jesus also points out that, those who hate Him also hate our Heavenly Father, God Himself (YHVH). So, not all religions lead to God. There's only one 'way' God has given us to find Him and that is through Jesus Christ (John 14:6). And if they hate Jesus, *they hate God.* And if you love Jesus Christ, *then they'll hate you to.* Get set for it and don't be a people pleaser. Seek to please God *first and foremost* in your life and those who truly revere God will like you – and 'to hell' with the rest. God will judge them for their rebelliousness to Him, *as well as* their persecuting His servants (i.e. you). Further to this, John himself tells us...

20 If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?

21 And this commandment have we from him, That he who loveth God love his brother also.

1 John 4:20-21

While we are to hate evil (Amos 5:15) and depart from it (Ps 34:14, 37:27, Prov 3:7) we shouldn't hate others. This means we should hate the evil they do but still treat them according to God's Word. And it also doesn't mean we are to have fond feelings for those who do evil. Love is more than emotion. As Rom 13:10 clearly says, *love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law*. So, you can hate someone who does evil but we are not let that hate motivate us into doing evil to them. That's true love. Your hate for the evil they do should motivate you to speak the truth to them instead of putting up with it and simply 'going along to get along'. As Paul tells us...

17 Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men.

18 If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.

19 Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

20 Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head.

21 Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.

Rom 12:17-21

If someone that's doing evil is truly in need, then the best thing you can do for them is not to give them a physical drink of water or physical food. The best thing is to give them God's Word, which is the *spiritual* food and water we need to live eternally (John 6:63). That's how you 'heap coals' upon their own head, because the wicked hate the truth (John 3:19-21). And hating evil also doesn't mean to keep that anger boiled up inside. It means we must despise the wicked things they do and refrain from partaking in it. It also means to reprove it when there's an opportunity to do so. As Eph 5:11 says: *have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them*. And it is *very* important to clean out the bitterness and anger you feel for the wicked one's doings because bitterness will corrupt your soul (Heb 12:15). So, we should hate anger inasmuch as we refrain from fellowshiping with it *and* reprove it when we have the chance to do so; but we can't let our emotions cause us to act with misguided (even sinister) zeal into disobeying God's Word (as we learned in the last chapter, Ps 37).

So, to get back to Psalms 38 we see that David is (after he repented) now asking for help from the Lord concerning those who are his enemies *without just cause* and are cruelly trying to 'kick him while he's down'...

Psalms 38

20 They also that render evil for good are mine adversaries; because I follow the thing that good is.

Now we see David clearly declare why his enemies were his enemies. And again, it's not because of some evil he did to them but because he followed the 'thing that good is'. In other words, David still followed (loved and served) the Lord God Almighty (YHVH) and he sincerely believed that the Messiah (Jesus Christ) would come to pay for all his sins; he well understood that's what the blood sacrifices taught (as Psalms 22 and more prove). In other words, David's enemies wanted to get him out of the way so they could run the country with wicked laws instead of how David was ruling the country, which was according to God's Laws. **That** is why the Lord didn't allow the rebellions against David to succeed. What Israel would have gotten from the rebels (like Absalom) leading the country would have been *far worse* than David's rule, even with his faults. Again, though he was not without fault, David did a very good job being king of Israel, *overall*. Likewise, those who want Satan to rule over them – or simply want to rule themselves – are incredibly naïve and ignorant of reality. They have no idea how vicious of a tyrant Satan really is. Satan is deceptive because he lies well but his government is so incredibly wicked that the Bible likens it to a 'beast' (Rev 13), and for good reason. Dan 7:7 even explains that it is *dreadful and terrible, and strong exceedingly; and it had great iron teeth: it devoured and brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with the feet of it: and it was diverse from all the beasts that were before it; and it had ten horns*. The worldwide government Satan will institute when he gets here will be different than anything we've ever seen. If we think the communists and other dictators are bad, we've not seen anything yet. Dictators of the past (or present) can only enslave people's bodies but Satan will work to enslave your heart, mind and even your very soul (spiritual body; the essence of who you are) to his lies and deception...which is what causes eternal death (Rom 8:6). As Acts 26:8 and Heb 2:14 tell us, Satan's power is in his ability to deceive people into divorcing themselves from the truth (God Himself, Jesus Christ, the Word of God) and embrace lies (Satan, the darkness) which, again, *is what causes our soul to die*.

Psalms 38

21 Forsake me not, O LORD: O my God, be not far from me

David now begins to end this Psalm of repentance by asking the Lord not to '**forsake**' him, which means **to loosen**, i.e. **relinquish, permit** (#5800) and has also been translated as leave and refuse. He also uses the Lord's Sacred name (Yehovah, #3068) when asking for Him not to forsake him because Yehovah (YHVH) is God's 'Covenant' name. And His 'Covenant' with us is that, *IF* we do not forsake Him **then** He'll *never* (ever) forsake us. As Jonah 2:8 says, *they that observe lying vanities forsake their own mercy*. And, Isa 1:28 also states that *the destruction of the transgressors and of the sinners shall be together, and they that forsake the LORD shall be consumed*. Jer 17:13 also says that all that forsake the Lord (YHVH) shall be ashamed, and they

that depart from Him shall be written in the earth, because they have forsaken the LORD, the fountain of living waters. Those who forsake God (His Word, His Laws) will be ashamed because they will **not** be written in the ‘book of life’ (Phil 4:3) but will be blotted out of existence (Rev 20:12-15). Our Heavenly Father is the ‘fountain’ of Living Waters (John 4) because it is from Him that all truth (which we need to live forever) flows. And, later on in the book of Isaiah, we’re also told...

11 But ye are they that forsake the LORD, that forget my holy mountain, that prepare a table for that troop, and that furnish the drink offering unto that number.

12 Therefore will I number you to the sword, and ye shall all bow down to the slaughter: because when I called, ye did not answer; when I spake, ye did not hear; but did evil before mine eyes, and did choose that wherein I delighted not.

Isa 65:11-12

Those who refuse to stop doing evil, turn back to the Lord and learn to do what’s right, will indeed be forsaken by Him because **they forsook Him first**. They refused to embrace the One who gives us life and salvation (Jesus Christ) and they therefore *forsake their own mercy*, as Jonah 2:8 says. This is God’s Covenant with us. And as such, those who don’t forsake Him, will **never** be forsaken by Him, as it is written...

*29 **But if** from thence thou shalt seek the LORD thy God, thou shalt find him, if thou seek him with all thy heart and with all thy soul.*

*30 When thou art in tribulation, and all these things are come upon thee, even in the latter days, **if thou turn to the LORD thy God, and shalt be obedient unto his voice;***

*31 (For the LORD thy God is a merciful God;) **he will not forsake thee, neither destroy thee, nor forget the covenant of thy fathers which he sware unto them.***

Deut 4:29-31

This is why, in Ps 119:8, the Psalmist pleads with God (as David does here in Ps 38:21) not to forsake him utterly because he was sincerely trying to keep God’s statutes (His Law). And truly, the wicked ones have no excuse. God has pleaded with them throughout all time to forsake their wicked ways and turn back to Him (turn back to doing what’s right). And He will *continue* to do so through the two witnesses (Rev 11) and others whom He will speak through when Satan’s on earth trying to seduce all people into forsaking the Lord (YHVH) (Mth 10:18-22, Mk 13:9-13, Lk 21:12-19). Consider what else YHVH said through the great prophet Isaiah...

*7 **Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.***

8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD.

9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Isa 55:7-9

Yes, God pleads with the wicked (whom He really does not want to see blotted out of existence, Ezek 18, 33, 2 Pt 3:9) to forsake their wicked ways and turn back to Him (doing what's right). He even promises to *abundantly* pardon them **if** they'll simply stop forsaking Him and instead, *forsake Satan* (wickedness). *That* is God's 'Covenant' in a 'nutshell'. And He's even provided atonement for our sins, through the precious (sinless) blood of His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ (Rom 5:11). And that's why, in the book of Hebrews, Paul advises and reminds us...

5 Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.

6 So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.

Heb 13:5-6

Also to note, in the latter part of this Ps 38:21, David says: *O my God, be not far from me*. This word 'God' is a 'title' for Yehovah - '*Elohiym*' (#430), which means the Supreme God. David uses it here because He's asking His creator ('*Elohiym*', apx 4) not to be far from him because he is trying to keep (observe) *his part* of God's Covenant in humbly, and sincerely, repenting for his sins and turning back to doing what's right. When we acknowledge that Yehovah (YHVH) is our Creator and is thus, the Supreme Authority over all His creation, we submit ourselves to His righteous Laws and 'covenant' with Him by trying to learn of Him and do what's right, according to His holy Laws. And *that* is what's required for Him to 'never forsake' us...

Psalms 38

22 Make haste to help me, O Lord my salvation.*

This is yet another verse where 'Lord' shows as '*Adonay*' (#136) in the *Strong's Concordance* but is actually *Yehovah* (#3068), the Covenant God (apx. 32). That's why David uses Yehovah when pleading (as the concluding thought) for *Yehovah* to help him, because He is truly our only salvation - as He Himself said in Isa 43:10-13 and Isa 45:21-25. And, in 1 John 4:14, John testifies that: *we have seen, and do testify, that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world*. God Himself came to earth, incarnated as Jesus Christ (John 1:1,14, Col 1:15, Heb 1:3, etc.) to save us from our sins *and* from the power of Satan, which is to deceive people into committing spiritual suicide by rebelling against God Almighty (YHVH). As Paul also wrote...

8 Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner: but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God;

9 Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began,

*10 But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, **who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel:***

2 Tim 1:8-10

Jesus Christ abolished death because He provided a way we can be forgiven our sins. Believing in Jesus Christ and making a good repentance is how we do that. But again, a good repentance (as David has taught us here in Ps 38 and elsewhere) is not just saying ‘sorry Lord’. It’s also about accepting our chastisement with humility and working to put off our sinful ways and learning to do what’s right, from the heart. As Peter also taught us...

3 According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:

*4 Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that **by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.***

*5 And beside this, giving all diligence, **add to your faith** virtue; and to virtue knowledge;*

6 And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness;

7 And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.

*8 **For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.***

9 But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins.

*10 Wherefore the rather, brethren, **give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall:***

*11 For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you **abundantly** into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.*

2 Peter 1:3-11

In order to be ‘saved’ spiritually (from spiritual death; being blotted out of existence) we must partake of the ‘divine nature’ of God through His Holy Spirit and Holy Word. We’ve got to study His Word to learn of Him because, otherwise, we won’t forsake our sinful nature (the carnal mind). When we sincerely repent, our duty is to study His Word (Mth 11:29) so the Holy Spirit can help us put off the ‘old man’ (our carnal mind, which is the part of us that wants to sin, Rom 8) and put on the ‘new man’ which is created in the image of God’s *righteousness and holiness* (Eph 4:24). And so, *though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day* (2 Cor 4:16) by knowledge of Jesus Christ (Col 3:10)...

4 But after that the kindness and love of God our Saviour toward man appeared,

*5 Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, **by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;**
6 Which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour;
7 That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.*
Titus 3:4-7

To the chief Musician, even to Je-du'-thun,

Now, this chapter ends with a ‘subscription’. And, as we’ve learned before, the words ‘to the chief Musician’ means ‘to He that has the victory’ or ‘to He that gives the victory’ – which, of course, is Jesus Christ (apx 64). So, David ends this great Psalm that teaches us how to truly repent, from the heart – so we can partake in the blessings when Jesus Christ returns – by giving it over to the ‘chief Musician’, Jesus Christ. This essentially means that true repentance is something done only between your spirit and God’s Holy Spirit because our ‘Chief Musician’ intercedes for us, at the right hand of God (Rom 8:26-34). As Heb 7:25 says, Jesus Christ is *able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them*. But, what does this ‘Je-du'-thun’ mean and why is it added to the end of the subscription? In 2 Chron 35:15 Jedethun is called ‘the king’s seer’ and Apx 65 VI in the *Companion Bible* explains that Jedethun was one of three chief directors of the Levitical singers. And then, in 1 Chron 25:1 we’re told it was the duty of him, and the two other ‘chief directors’, ‘to prophesy’ and ‘to confess, and to praise Yehovah’ (vs 3). So, David gave this Psalm over to him with instructions of when (and possibly how) it was to be played – i.e. on the Day of Atonement. Which again, was a time Israel was to prepare themselves for the Feast of Tabernacles (symbolic of Jesus Christ’s return; His Second Advent) by afflicting themselves; which means to humble oneself and kick out all our sins, just as David has been doing in this Psalm. As Paul says...

*11 Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come.
12 Wherefore **let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.**
13 There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.*
1 Cor 10:11-13

If you *don’t* forsake the Lord (His Way, His Word, His Son) then He’ll *never* forsake you...

*5 Do ye think that the scripture saith in vain, The spirit that dwelleth in us lusteth to envy?
6 But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.*

7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

*8 **Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you.** Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.*

9 Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy to heaviness.

*10 **Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.***

James 4:5-10

AMEN.