

# Psalm 77

**Psalms 77:1-6** [NIV] *“I cried out to God for help; I cried out to God to hear me. When I was in distress, I sought the Lord; at night I stretched out untiring hands and my soul refused to be comforted. I remembered you, O God, and I groaned; I mused, and my spirit grew faint. Selah. You kept my eyes from closing; I was too troubled to speak. I thought about the former days, the years of long ago; I remembered my songs in the night. My heart mused and my spirit enquired:”*

**The distress was personal and not linked to any national event. It was keeping the Psalmist awake at night considering why he felt the way he did when he considered his life.**

**Psalms 77:7-9** [New King James] *“Will the Lord cast off forever? And will He be favourable no more? Has His mercy ceased forever? Has His promise failed forevermore? Has God forgotten to be gracious? Has He in anger shut up His tender mercies? Selah.”*

**The Psalmist then discloses the root of his personal problem was his doubt in the love and care for him by the Creator God.**

Note “*Selah*” telling us to pause and meditate on what we have just read.

The Psalmist expressed this doubt in six questions to the Creator God, expecting the answer to be “*no.*”

**Psalms 77:10-12** [New King James] *“And I said, ‘This is my anguish; but I will remember the years of the right hand of the Most High.’ I will remember the works of the LORD; surely I will remember Your wonders of old. I will also meditate on all Your work, and talk of Your deeds.”*

The Psalmist’s mind was, most likely, as a result of his meditation on what he had just expressed, directed towards his memory of the past care the Creator God had shown to his nation and himself.

**This change of direction of his thoughts turned doubt into praise of the Creator God.**

**Psalms 77:13-15** [New King James] *“Your way, O God, is in the sanctuary; Who is so great a God as our God? You are the God who does wonders; You have declared Your strength among the peoples. You have with Your arm redeemed Your people, the sons of Jacob and Joseph. Selah.”*

**Notice the “I” had changed to “you.”**

**When we change our focus from ourselves to meditate on the greatness of the Creator God, our doubts fade and turn to thanks and praise.**

**Again the Psalmist pauses to consider what has just come into his mind, something that could have been prompted by the Holy Spirit.**

**There had been no change in the character of the Creator God, for this is impossible, [Malachi 3:6; Hebrews 13:8; Titus 1:2], it was the human perspective of the Creator God that had changed in the Psalmist’s mind that caused the doubt.**

**Psalms 77:16-20** [New King James] *“The waters saw You, O God; the waters saw You, they were afraid; the depths also trembled. The clouds poured out water; the skies sent out a sound; Your arrows also flashed about. The voice of Your thunder was in the whirlwind; the lightnings lit up the world; the earth trembled and shook. Your way was in the sea, Your path in the great waters, and Your footsteps were not known. You led Your people like a flock by the hand of Moses and Aaron.”*

**The Psalmist then solidifies his renewed faith in the Creator God by remembering some of the historical facts of the Creator God's dealing with his nation.**

**Memories of God's miracles and faithfulness sustained Israel through their times of difficulties and doubt, they can do the same for every human being in every generation, [Hebrews 12:1-2]. This is why they are recorded in God's Word.**

**1 Corinthians 10:1-14** [New King James] *“Moreover, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware that all our fathers were under the cloud, all passed through the sea, all were baptised into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ. But with most of them God was not well pleased, for their bodies were scattered in the wilderness. Now these things became our examples, to the intent that we should not lust after evil things as they also lusted. And do not become idolaters as were some of them. As it is written, ‘The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play.’ Nor let us commit sexual immorality, as some of them did, and in one day twenty-three thousand fell; nor let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed by serpents; nor complain, as some of them also complained, and were destroyed by the destroyer. Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come. Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall. No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it. Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry.”*

**A timely reminder for all true Christians if at any time we have doubts in the Creator God's love and care for us personally, as did the Psalmist.**