

When did David write Psalm 5?

It was after 977 BC, when the tabernacle was rebuilt and the ark was moved

It is after 977 BC because the *sanctuary* (*hêkal*) is a place where David can go

The term *hêkal* is not a technical term for the Temple

Therefore, Absalom's rebellion (976 BC) is the probable background

Superscription: David, the author, instructs the chief musician to arrange it for flutes

David confidently and urgently petitions the Lord each morning (1–3)

Indications of urgency

Indications of confidence

Indications that this is David's pattern each morning

The God [to whom David confidently petitions] destroys workers of iniquity, rather than fellowshiping with them (4–6)

David's enemies arrogantly use deceit to murder (they combine the evil traits)

However, God does not fellowship with workers of iniquity (who may be less flagrant)

Pride and boasting

Speaking falsehood and deceiving

Bloodthirsty (literally: man of bloods = man who shed blood)

The plural of blood (bloods) is used of *bloodshed*

David [who seeks fellowship with the Lord] petitions the Lord to lead him walking in righteousness as faced with enemies (7–8)

David does regard his own character as the basis for fellowship with the Lord, but he petitions the Lord in *hesed* (*covenantal loyal love* for one who is under the covenant)

David does not merely ask for victory over his enemies, but prays that the Lord will enable Him to deal righteously with his enemies

David clarifies why the Lord should judge his enemies and cause the self-destruction of His enemies, [who rebel against God] flatter and deceive people in order to destroy those standing in their way (9–10)

David asks God to judge his enemies & to cause their secret counsels to self-destruct

In this way, David does not get out in front of the Lord

David confidently prays that those who trust in the Lord will rejoice as they see the Lord's deliverance (11–12)

CONCLUSION

Each morning David confidently and urgently petitions the Lord (who shuns fellowship with evil-workers and destroys them) and he petitions the Lord to lead him in righteousness when facing enemies, specifically, that (1) the Lord would cause self-destruction of these enemies, who (in rebellion against God) flatter and deceive people to destroy those standing in their way and (2) that those who trust in the Lord will rejoice as they see the Lord's deliverance

1. David confidently and urgently petitions the Lord each morning (1–3)
2. God [to whom David prays] shuns fellowship with evil-workers & destroys them (4–6)
3. David [who seeks fellowship with the Lord] petitions the Lord to lead him walking righteously when facing enemies (7–8)
4. The Lord should cause the self-destruction of His enemies, who (in rebellion against God) flatter & deceive people to destroy those standing in their way (9–10)
5. David confidently prays that those who trust in the Lord will rejoice as they see the Lord's deliverance (11–12)

David prays to his righteous God to lead him to walk righteously when facing enemies—who (in rebellion against God) seek to destroy the righteous—specifically, (1) for the Lord to bring self-destruct on the enemies & (2) to cause those who trust the Lord to rejoice in His deliverance