

1. A promise from the LORD to arise

- a) Psalm 12:5 How does this promise from the LORD challenge the opinion of atheists and deists?
- b) What other promises in the Psalms and elsewhere in the Scriptures remind us that the LORD is willing and ready to act on behalf of those who call upon His name? Psalm 50:15, Isaiah 41:10, etc.

2. Calling upon the LORD to arise

- a) Psalm 18:1-3 What is the context for the writing of this psalm, and how did the LORD answer David's cry for help?
- b) Share some other examples where the LORD arose in responses to the cries of His children. Exodus 3:1-9, etc.
- c) Share a time when you called upon the LORD to arise and deliver you.

3. Hearing the cry of the oppressed

- a) Psalm 12:5
- b) Psalm 9:9-10
- c) Why does the LORD show special care for those who are oppressed? Psalm 89:14, 97:1-2
- d) What can we learn from the Psalmists about speaking out against injustice? Psalm 58:1-2, 82:2-4
- e) Where do you see a need for justice for the oppressed in our world today?
- f) How should we respond when we see the poor oppressed and

hear the needy sighing?

- g) What story of Jesus reminds us that we can all do something to relieve oppression and care for the needy? Luke 10:30-37, etc.

4. When the LORD seems slow to arise

- a) Share a time when the LORD seemed slow to arise in response to the cry of one of His children. 1 Kings 18:41-43 (in contrast read 1 Kings 18:37-38)
- b) What is a common response when we cry out to the LORD to arise, and He doesn't answer at the time or in the way we would prefer?
- c) How can we deal with the challenge of waiting for the LORD to arise at His perfect time and in the way that He chooses? Psalm 27:13-14
- d) What promise did the prophet Isaiah give to those who wait upon the LORD? Isaiah 40:28-31
- e) Share a time when you had to learn to wait upon the LORD.

5. When the LORD arises to judge the earth

- a) Psalm 96:11-13, 98:8-9
- b) Why is the time when the LORD arises to judge the earth a time of rejoicing for the redeemed?
- c) How can we face that final judgment without fear?

