

A close-up photograph of a hand with fingers clasped in a prayerful gesture, set against a dark, moody background. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the skin and the form of the hand. The image is partially obscured by a dark brown overlay that contains the text.

Psalm 143

A prayer for deliverance and
guidance.

Psalms 143:1

**Hear my prayer, O Lord, Give
ear to my supplications!**

**Answer me in Your
faithfulness, in Your
righteousness!**

*Why should God
hear our prayers?*

Three Views of God

1. God, I live my life right and seek to be good so you owe me – I deserve an answer.
2. God, you are good and kind and because you are, you will answer me.
3. See vs 2.

Psalms 143:2

**Enter not into judgment with
your servant, for no one living
is righteous before you.**

*I don't deserve your answer, but
Jesus took the punishment and
judgment I deserve.*



Psalm 143:3-4

For the enemy has pursued my soul; he has crushed my life to the ground; he has made me sit in darkness like those long dead.

Therefore my spirit faints within me; my heart within me is appalled.



Psalm 143:5-6

I remember the days of old;

The Power of Memories

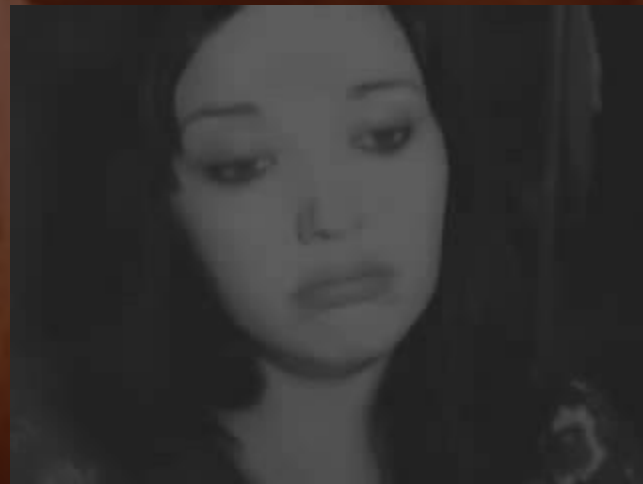
In worship
In marriage
In suffering

Psalm 143:5-6

I meditate on all that you have done; I ponder the work of your hands. I stretch out my hands to you; my soul thirsts for you like a parched land. Selah

Do you notice a turning of the mind towards God?

*What do we tend to think about
when life knocks the wind out of
us?*





Psalm 143:5-6

I meditate on all that you have
done; I ponder the work of your
hands.

Hand of God



Deuteronomy 7:17-19

“If you say in your heart, ‘These nations are greater than I. How can I dispossess them?’ you shall not be afraid of them but you shall remember what the Lord your God did to Pharaoh and to all Egypt, the great trials that your eyes saw, the signs, the wonders, the mighty hand, and the outstretched arm, by which the Lord your God brought you out.

Isaiah 59:16

He saw that there was no one, he was appalled that there was no one to intervene; so his own arm worked salvation for him, and his own righteousness sustained him.

His own arm worked salvation



How does thinking about the work of God help us when we are feeling crushed?

1st When we go feel
we have been wronged.



» We get your name out thereSM

Yet when you “ponder the work of your {God’s} hand”, Jesus on the cross, a new perspective comes in.

You can see yourself as someone even more wicked than you ever dared to believe.





2nd “pondering the work” of God
you see yourself as someone
more loved than you ever dared
hoped.

3rd In suffering the work of God
says
I am with you.



Psalm 143:5-6

I meditate on all that you have done; I ponder the work of your hands. I stretch out my hands to you; my soul thirsts for you like a parched land.

Selah

Psalm 143:7-8

Answer me quickly, O Lord, my spirit fails; Do not hide Your face from me, Or I will become like those who go down to the pit. Let me hear Your loving kindness in the morning; For I trust in You; **Teach me the way in which I should walk;** For to You I lift up my soul.

Psalm 143:9-10

Deliver me from my enemies, O Lord! I have fled to you for refuge!

Teach me to do your will, for you are my God! Let your good Spirit lead me on level ground!



Hebrews 12:7-11

Psalm 143:11-12

For your name's sake, O Lord,
preserve my life! In your
righteousness bring my soul out
of trouble! And in your steadfast
love you will cut off my enemies,
and you will destroy all the
adversaries of my soul, for I am
your servant.

