



**DAILY ENCOURAGEMENTS**  
**Carstairs-Bancroft United Church**  
*December 13, 2023*



Photo: Our Daily Bread

## TRUSTING GOD

*Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord  
our God.*

Psalm 20:7

### READ Psalm 20

I needed two medications urgently. One was for my mom's allergies and the other for my niece's eczema. Their discomfort was worsening, but the medicines were no longer available in pharmacies. Desperate and helpless, I prayed repeatedly, Lord, please help them.

Weeks later, their conditions became manageable. God seemed to be saying: "There are times when I use medicines to heal. But medicines don't have the final say; I do. Don't place your trust in them, but in Me."

In Psalm 20, King David took comfort in God's trustworthiness. The Israelites had a powerful army, but they knew that their biggest strength came from "the name of the Lord" (v. 7). They placed their trust in God's name—in who He is, His unchanging character, and un failing promises. They held on to the truth that He who is sovereign and powerful over all situations would hear their prayers and deliver them from their enemies (v. 6).

While God may use the resources of this world to help us, ultimately, victory over our problems comes from Him. Whether He gives us a resolution or the grace to endure, we can trust that He'll be to us all that He says He is. We don't have to be overwhelmed by our troubles, but we can face them with His hope and peace.

By **Karen Huang**

### PRAY & REFLECT

**Heavenly Father, give me the courage to trust in You. Help me to believe that You're all that You promise to be. Amen**

In your personal battles, where or in what do you place your trust? How might trusting in God's name change the way you cope with these challenges?

### SCRIPTURE INSIGHT

A careful reading reveals that Psalms 20 and 21 are related. Psalm 20 is a prayer for the protection (vv. 1-2) and victory of the king, God's anointed (vv. 6, 9). The prayer of the psalmist, "Lord, give victory to the king! Answer us when we call!" (v. 9) is shown to be answered in Psalm 21. There, in a more direct way, the writer talks to God about His dealings with the king (vv. 1-7) and his enemies (vv. 8-12). The idea of trusting in God (20:7) is reiterated in 21:7: "For the king trusts in the Lord; through the un failing love of the Most High he will not be shaken." Psalm 20 closes with petition and Psalm 21 with praise: "Be exalted in your strength, Lord; we will sing and praise your might" (v. 13). – By **Arthur Jackson**

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