A black and white photograph of a person crouching in a dark, arched tunnel. The person is silhouetted against a bright, glowing light at the end of the tunnel. The tunnel walls are made of rough, textured stone or brick. The light at the end of the tunnel creates a strong contrast with the dark interior, casting a long, bright beam of light across the floor.

Psalm 33

Elements Class

April 17th 10:45am

(1) Shout for joy in the LORD, O you righteous! Praise befits the upright.



(2) Give thanks to the
LORD with the lyre;
make melody to him
with the harp of ten
strings!



(3) Sing to him a new song;
play skillfully on the strings, with loud
shouts.



**This Psalm begins with
a call to action!**



We are told to do certain things...

- Shout for joy (v1)
- Give thanks (v2)
- Make melody to Him (v2)
 - Sing to Him (v3)
 - Play skillfully (v3)
 - Shout loudly (v3)

(4) For the word of the LORD is upright,
and all his work is done in faithfulness.



(5) He loves righteousness and justice;
the earth is full of the steadfast love of
the LORD.



**This Psalm continues with
a call to reason!**



We are given certain reasons as to why we should worship...

- **God is upright in all He says (v4)**
- **God is faithful in all He does (v4)**
 - **God is righteous & just (v5)**
- **The world is full of His love (v5)**

**Why is important for us to
know & believe that God is...**

- **Upright in all He says?**
- **Faithful in all He does?**
- **Righteous & just?**
- **Filling the world with His love?**

How should knowing that God is

- Upright in all He says...
- Faithful in all He does...
- Righteous & just...
- Filling the world with His love...

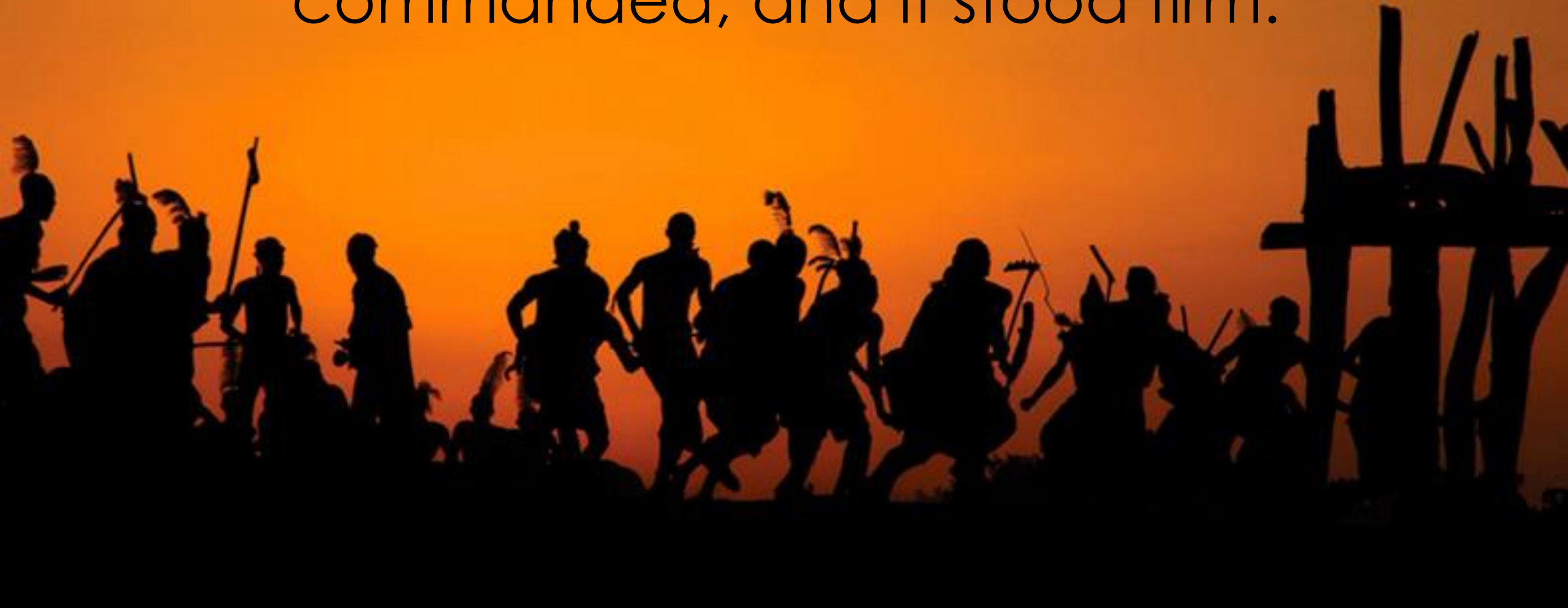
Make us want to

- **Shout for joy?**
- **Give thanks?**
- **Make melody to Him?**
 - **Sing to Him?**
 - **Play skillfully?**
 - **Shout loudly?**

(6-7) By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, and by the breath of his mouth all their host. He gathers the waters of the sea as a heap; he puts the deeps in storehouses.



(8-9) Let all the earth fear the LORD;
let all the inhabitants of the world stand in
awe of him. For he spoke, and it came to be; he
commanded, and it stood firm.



Again, we are told to do certain things...

- **Fear the Lord (v8)**
- **Stand in awe of Him (v8)**

Again, we are given certain reasons...

- **God made heaven & earth by his word (v8)**
- **God spoke and creation responded (v9)**

How does knowing that God

- Made heaven & earth by his word...
- Spoke and creation responded...

Lead us to

- Fearing the Lord?
- Standing in awe of Him?

In this Psalm (&29) we learn that
God wants our worship to flow out
from **correct affections & actions,**
based on a certain attributes,
towards the correct name!

The name is Yahweh:

Used 13 times, and the only
name used for 'God'.

God wants our valuing, our
praising & our worshipping to
be specific.

God wants to be known and
worshipped **'accurately'** or
'accordingly' not **'vaguely'**
or **'vicariously'**.

God wants to be known for certain things and he wants to be **praised, worshipped, honored, thanked, feared, valued & awed...** because of those attributes, traits.

The basis of our worship:
Is the character
of our God!

David is telling us that knowing God accurately should ignite within us a genuine response of worship.

Furthermore, David is telling us about God's **'love language'**, or **'worship language'**. David is telling us how God wants to be worshiped.

True worship, that honors
God should correlate with
'God's style' and not our
own style.

And God is saying that he prefers,
Shouts of joy, while giving thanks and
making melodies to Him & singing to Him
while playing a host of instruments skillfully.

**Sadly enough, this kind of worship that
God calls us to would be unwelcome in
most American churches.**

Loud shouting mentioned twice?

The basis of our style (culture):
Is the custom of
our God not man.

The psalmist appears to switch gears in the second half of the Psalm and focuses on God as the ruler & judge of the world!



(10) The LORD brings the counsel of the nations to nothing; he frustrates the plans of the peoples.



(11) The counsel of the LORD stands forever,
the plans of his heart to all generations.



(12) Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage!



(13-15) The LORD looks down from heaven; he sees all the children of man; from where he sits enthroned...

he looks out on all the inhabitants of the earth, he who fashions the hearts of them all and observes all their deeds.



David warns that God is enthroned over all, and all will give account to him. He warns that the person & nation who heed God's counsel will stand firm...

...but those who make their
own plans and do not turn to
the counsel of God; plot their
own demise.



(16) The king is not
saved by his great army;
a warrior is not
delivered by his great
strength.

(17) The war horse is a false hope for salvation,
and by its great might it cannot rescue.



David warns further that any person or nation who banks their hope or salvation on their own strength or power is doomed.



David compares and contrasts the difference between those who take refuge/hope in their own might and those who take refuge in God's might.

(18-19) Behold, the
eye of the LORD is on
those who fear him,
on those who hope
in his steadfast love,
that he may deliver
their soul from
death and keep
them alive in
famine.



David promises that those who:

(1) Fear God

(2) Hope in his steadfast love

Will be:

(1) Delivered from death

**(2) Delivered from calamity
(famine)**

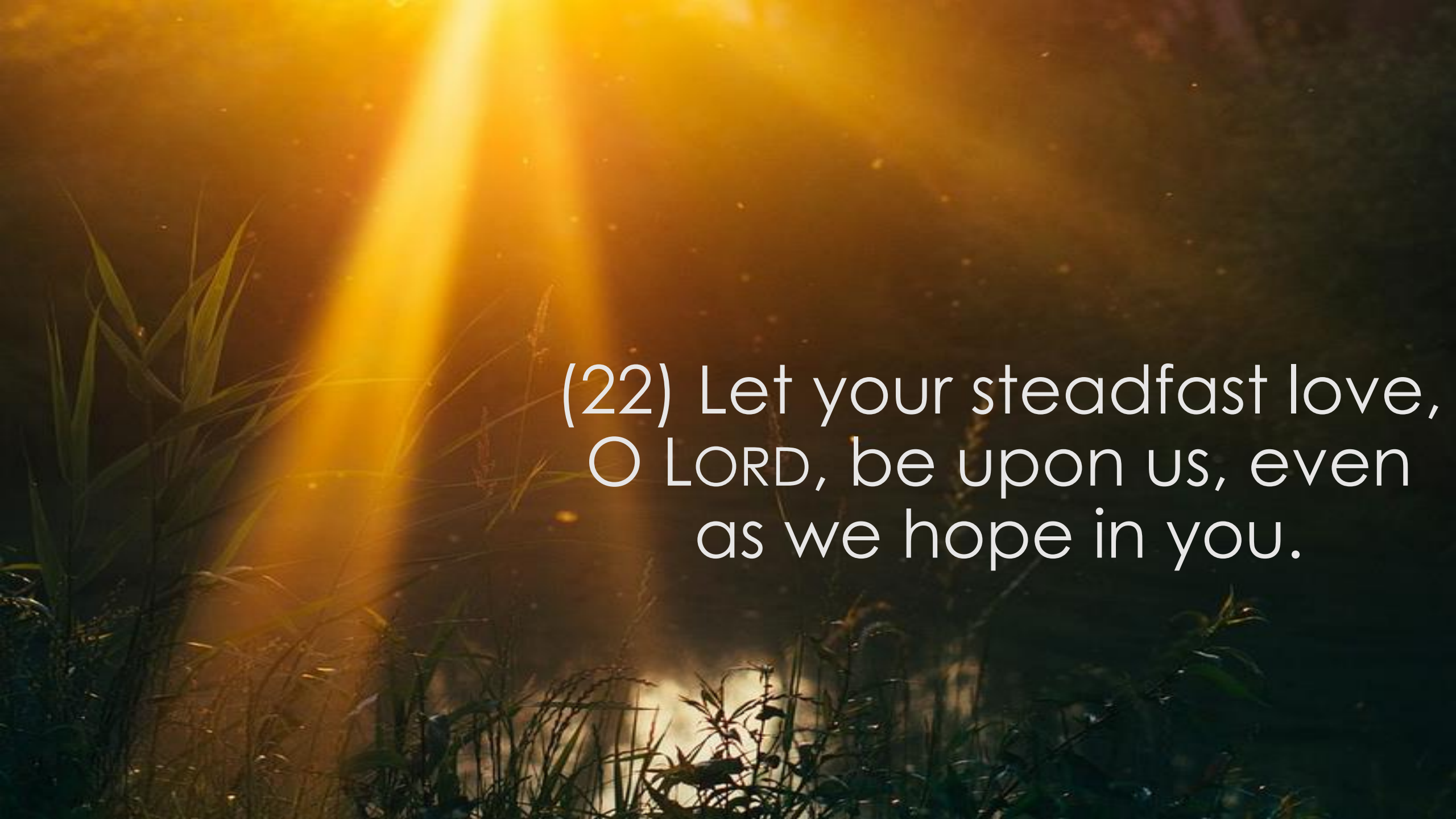
(20) Our soul waits for the LORD;
he is our help and our shield.



David closes by saying that those who believe in God will wait, hiding behind God's might and not fear, as he draws all things (nations, times) into conformity with his will.

(21) For our heart is glad in
him, because we trust in his
holy name.





(22) Let your steadfast love,
O LORD, be upon us, even
as we hope in you.

David finishes by saying that those who have taken refuge in God can & will be glad, because they are engulfed by the love of God.

Literal Hebrew translation of v22

*Be your covenant loyalty on us
according as we hope to.*

Contextual translation of v22

*Because of your faithful covenant
commitment to us we are able to (will
continue to) hope in you [inferred: and
our hope/trust will not be put to shame
but will result in gladness] (v21)*

The basis of our faith (hope):
Is the covenant
of our God!

SUMMARY



#1

God wants us to worship him
according to his true character.

God wants us to know him
accurately.

#2

The only real way to know
God's true character is to see
what he has revealed to us
about himself in his word.

#3

God wants us to worship him
according to his customs
...not simply according to our
middle-class, rural American
customs.

#4

God wants us to be willing to
(1) **align our thinking** about his
character with his word and to
(2) **align our worship** with his
customs, preference.

#5

God wants the world to know
that the end is near and that
**all who bank their hope on their
own might, their own ideas...
will perish.**

#6

God wants the world to know
that the end is near and that
**all who bank their hope on the
faithful covenant keeping God
of the Bible will receive
deliverance, life & joy.**