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God responds in times of distress.

א לְמַנְצֵחַ מְזִמּוֹר לְדָוִד. ב יַעֲנֶה יְהוָה בְּיוֹם

< on the < May HASHEM answer << by David. < a psalm < For the
day you conductor,

צָרָה; * יִשְׁגְּבֶךָ שֵׁם אֱלֹהֵי יַעֲקֹב. * ג יִשְׁלַח

< May He << of Jacob.* < of the God < by the < may you be << of distress;*
dispatch Name made impregnable

ד יִזְכֹּר כָּל עֲזָרְךָ מִקֹּדֶשׁ, * וּמִצִּיּוֹן יִסְעָדְךָ. ה יִתֵּן לְךָ

< all < May He << support you. < and from Zion << from the < your
remember Sanctuary,* help

וְעוֹלֹתֶיךָ, * וְיִדְשָׁנָה סֵלָה. ה יִתֵּן לְךָ

< you < May He << Selah. << may He accept < and your << your offerings,*
grant with favor* burnt-offerings,

ז כָּל־בְּבִבְךָ, וְכָל עֲצָתְךָ יִמְלֵא. ח נִרְנְנָה

< May we << may He fulfill. < plan of yours < and << as your heart
sing for joy every [desires],

ט בִּישׁוּעָתְךָ, וּבְשֵׁם אֱלֹהֵינוּ נִדְגַל; יִמְלֵא יְהוָה

< may HASHEM fulfill << raise our < of our God < and in the < at your salvation,
banner; Name

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בְּיוֹם צָרָה — *On the day of distress; before it is too late (Malbim).*

אֱלֹהֵי יַעֲקֹב — *The God of Jacob.* Of all the Patriarchs, Jacob had the hardest life — the threats from Esau, exile under Laban and Pharaoh, the death of Rachel, the kidnapping of Dinah, the loss of Joseph — but God protected him. Therefore, in time of distress we call upon *Jacob's God (Kad HaKemach).*

יִשְׁלַח עֲזָרְךָ מִקֹּדֶשׁ — *May He dispatch your help from the Sanctuary, from the Holy of Holies inside the Temple where the Holy*

Ark rests and where God's spirit dwells. From there will go forth Divine aid in battle (*Radak*). We pray that our aid comes from the Sanctuary, based in holiness, and not from unholy sources such as the hands of gentile kings and armies which may fight on our side. It is the holiness of the Jewish people themselves, their sacred deeds and words, that is their main ally in battle.

יִדְשָׁנָה — *Your offerings, Israel's offerings in the Temple (Ibn Ezra); or the prayers offered in time of danger (Rashi).*

יִדְשָׁנָה — *May He accept with favor, lit. burn to ashes (Radak).*

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