I think this psalm is dealing with disappointment with God. Supposedly He had done great things for them in the past. “So what? Where is He today? Prove it! Show us something!” The devil tempted Jesus this way in the desert.

Not to us, O [LORD], not to us, but to Thy name give glory because of Thy lovingkindness, because of Thy truth.

Why should the nations say, “Where, now, is their God?” But our God is in the heavens; He does whatever He pleases.

Their idols are silver and gold, the work of man’s hands. 1) They have mouths, but they cannot speak; 2) they have eyes, but they cannot see; 3) they have ears, but they cannot hear; 4) they have noses, but they cannot smell; 5) They have hands, but they cannot feel; 6) they have feet, but they cannot walk; 7) they cannot make a sound with their throat.

Those who make them will become like them, everyone who trusts in them.

O Israel, trust in the LORD, He is their help and their shield. O house of Aaron, trust in the LORD; He is their help and their shield. You who fear the LORD, trust in the LORD; He is their help and their shield.

The heavens are the heavens of the LORD; they cannot make a sound with their throat. And the earth, the earth belongs to the LORD; the work of man’s hands. The idols cannot receive benefit for us, we feel bad and are tempted to forsake our trust in Him.

Westminster confession: Man’s chief purpose is to glorify God, to give Him glory.

When God does great things, we sometimes take the credit. And then when He doesn’t seem to come through for us, we feel bad and are tempted to forsake our trust in Him. “Where now is their God?”

Possibly a cry for God to renew His works of old.

The idols cannot receive that which is handed to them, they cannot grasp the scepter of power or the sword of vengeance, they can neither distribute benefits nor dispense judgments, and the most trifling act they are utterly unable to perform. An infant’s hand excels them in power. (Spurgeon) Idols may be made of the finest materials and craftsmanship, but they are lifeless, speechless, powerless, and useless. They 1. cannot give guidance 2. cannot see your needs 3. can’t hear your prayers 4. can’t smell your sacrifices 5. can’t touch your problems 6. can’t come to your aid 7. can’t even make a sound to show you they are there

3 times
Help - provider
Shield – protector

1. Israel in general 2. The priests of God’s service 3. The true Israelites, not only chosen out of all the people, or out of the chosen people for outward service; but serving God in sincerity of heart.

Coregency

The whole psalm seems to be in plural (us/them) and not in singular (me/he) as refers to people. The emphasis on the people of God, not the individual.

In the final week of his life Jesus said, "Now My soul has become troubled; and what shall I say, ’Father, save Me from this hour’? But for this purpose I came to this hour. Father, glorify Thy name.” (Jn. 12:27-28) It is almost a quote of verse 1 here.

God did not reveal any copiable image of Himself. He them a name. That was their point of contact. Not something they could see or touch, but something they could hold in their heart and on their tongue. That’s why God is near to all who call upon His name. You could be near or far from an idol,