

# PSALM 3 – MORNING PRAYER OF TRUST IN GOD

## Introduction

- 1) **Psalm 3:5** – “I awoke, for the LORD sustained me”
- 2) This psalm of David has often been called the “morning prayer” psalm
- 3) The title states that this psalm was written when David fled from Absalom his son
  - a) Problem originates with David’s sins concerning Uriah and Bathsheba (2 Sam. 12:9-12)
  - b) David’s son, Absalom, murders his half-brother Amnon for violating his sister Tamar; Absalom banished (ch. 13); Absalom returns and is forgiven by David (ch. 14)
  - c) Absalom’s treason to take his father’s throne (15:1-12); a sad and tragic situation as David flees Jerusalem (vv. 13-17, 23, 30)
  - d) Contrast and conflict between good and evil a theme continued from Psalms 1 and 2
- 4) In this psalm we observe the heart of a frustrated king who looks in trust to his LORD God

## **I) Many Enemies Have Increased (3:1-2)**

- A) Those who stand uncompromisingly with God will become enemies of those who love evil (Jn. 3:19-20; 15:18-19; 2 Tim. 3:12)
  - 1) Note David’s similar lament language in Psalm 41:7-9
- B) Enemies denied that God would help him – erroneous thinking of evil men (Matt. 27:43)
  - 1) This is a foolish denial of the very foundation of trust that the godly man has (Psa. 28:6-7; 46:1; Heb. 13:5-6)

## **II) The Lord as Our Shield (3:3-4)**

- A) David’s faith is not shaken by his enemies but is strengthened in God (Rom. 4:20)
  - 1) God is a “shield” to protect us (Psa. 7:10; 18:2; 28:7; 33:20; 84:11; 119:114; 144:2; Gen. 15:1; Deut. 33:29; 2 Sam. 22:3; Prov. 30:5)
    - a) We need the “shield of faith” (Eph. 6:16); this faith stands in adversity (1 Pet. 1:7)
  - 2) The Lord is our glory and raises up our despondent heads – relieves our distresses
- B) David prays and God hears him – prayer of a righteous man is effective (Jas. 5:16)
  - 1) When the righteous suffer, they pray with strong passion (Heb. 4:16; Jas. 5:13)
    - a) Why? Because they know God hears (1 Jn. 5:14-15)

## **III) Awakening with Confidence in God (3:5-6)**

- A) Sleep is peaceful for those who cast their cares on God and abide in His protection and sustenance (1 Pet. 5:6-7)
  - 1) Whether pursued by murderous king Saul or fleeing his treasonous son, David could sleep in trust and faith – the Lord was with him (cf. Acts 12:5-6; Prov. 3:24)
- B) Let us live so that we can be confident and unafraid in the Lord (Rom. 8:31)

## **IV) Salvation Belongs to the Lord (3:7-8)**

- A) “Save me, O my God!” – Goodness and righteousness will prevail in the end
  - 1) His son’s betrayal was defeated and David was restored to the throne (2 Sam. 18)
- B) Our confidence must be in the Lord and His power to overcome evil
  - 1) Not give in to fear but stand in faith (Phil. 1:27-28; Heb. 10:35-39)

## Conclusion

Our **morning prayer** of confidence and faith is based in our trust in God. He is our constant source of deliverance and salvation today and every day. Others may act against God and us, but because of God sustaining us by faith, we are able to awake and rise up to rejoice in Him!