

# Psalm 3

A psalm of David. When he fled from his son Absalom.

<sup>1</sup> O LORD, how many are my foes! How many rise up against me!

(A good part of the nation followed the ungrateful politician Absalom for he had stolen their hearts. Remember David had forgiven him for murdering his half brother and allowed him to come back to Jerusalem. So Absalom, instead of humbling himself and being repentant, taking the low seat, set himself in the gate and heard people's trials. He stole the hearts of the people away from his father with his people pleasing words. (2Sam 15:1-5) The majority is not always right, in fact it is usually wrong. To stand up for truth often puts you in a minority, not a people pleasing majority. David laments not just the loss of favor but the hostility that is undeserved.)

<sup>2</sup> Many are saying of me, "God will not deliver him." Selah

(Here he asks God's help with the saying of man. He knows God has helped him in the past and that his heart is trusting in the Lord to deliver him. So he presents their taunting lie to God. It is one thing to mock him, but this taunt includes his Maker. If you are accused falsely, take their words to God. )

<sup>3</sup> But you are a shield around me, O LORD; you bestow glory on me and lift up my head. (His Protector is the Lord (Gen 15:1), his shield, not just in front but all around. God shares his glory with his chosen (Ro 8:17) and keeps us from being overwhelmed by depression and shame. When you know you are right with God, you have confidence in God.)

<sup>4</sup> To the LORD I cry aloud, and he answers me from his holy hill. Selah

(Absalom looked to men for victory. David placed his hope in the Lord. Where do you turn first? He even encouraged some to stay behind and to consider their fate if they went with him. I don't think David knew how the Lord would answer but he placed his hope in the fact that the answer would be just. That was his main concern. David wasn't with the ark on Mt. Moriah, but he knew God would hear.)

<sup>5</sup> I lie down and sleep; I wake again, because the LORD sustains me.

(His hope is so strong in the Lord that his head is not full of turmoil, but he can sleep well with a clean conscience. It is the living out of last week's message. He knows the Lord keeps Him through the night. Most of us lose sleep when something troubles us. David is dethroned and fleeing for his life but he sleeps like a baby. He really trusts the Lord. We need to know that kind of faith in God and his love for us. 4:8, 112:7)

<sup>6</sup> I will not fear the tens of thousands drawn up against me on every side.

(Here is why he slept so well, he chose not to fear man. He feared God so he did not need to fear man.)

<sup>7</sup> Arise, O LORD! Deliver me, O my God! Strike all my enemies on the jaw; break the teeth of the wicked. ( He sounds mean and nasty. Those who have set themselves against the Lord and against his anointed will be destroyed! He is praying the will of God. 139:19-22 That is quite a reality check. We may side against God's anointed and God's will because someone has shmoozed us with their people pleasing charms. Too many today are in the camp of Absalom who has told them what they want to hear. They love it. 2Tim 4:2,3)

<sup>8</sup> From the LORD comes deliverance. May your blessing be on your people. Selah (He knows not to trust man for deliverance but to put his hope in God. His prayer and song is not for himself alone but that God's blessing may be upon His people. That is a shepherd's heart. God chose David because he would watch over his people like he watched over his sheep.)