



Arise, O Lord!
3rd in the “Psalms” Series
Psalm 3
July 10, 2022
Pastor Casey Ehlers

Introduction

In this sermon we see the faith of David during a great time of need.

The Text: Psalm 3

A Psalm of David, when he fled from Absalom his son.

1 O Lord, how many are my foes!

Many are rising against me;

2 many are saying of my soul,

“There is no salvation for him in God.” Selah

*3 But you, O Lord, are a shield about me,
my glory, and the lifter of my head.*

4 I cried aloud to the Lord,

and he answered me from his holy hill. Selah

5 I lay down and slept;

I woke again, for the Lord sustained me.

*6 I will not be afraid of many thousands of people
who have set themselves against me all around.*

7 Arise, O Lord!

Save me, O my God!

*For you strike all my enemies on the cheek;
you break the teeth of the wicked.*

8 Salvation belongs to the Lord;

your blessing be on your people! Selah

Message: We can have faith in our God, who will deliver and protect his people.

1) Introducing Psalm 3

Element 1: Historical referent → David fleeing Absalom (2 Samuel 15)

Element 2: “Selah” (x3) → Most likely for use as a musical interlude

Element 3: Prayer of imprecation → v. 7

2) How do we read Psalm 3?

Error 1: Psalm 3 is **simply** (only) historical background, giving us a glimpse into the life of David.

Error 2: Psalm 3 is **simply** a prosperity promise from God, that all the believer’s problems will fixed.

Selah: Psalm 3 is a “song” sung from the believer’s heart – that our God will always provide and never leave His children.

Application: The praise and petition of Psalm 3 ultimately points “forward” to the climax of human history (the Gospel).

Response: Arise O Lord! Help me trust that you are my shield, my sovereign, and my strength!

Sunday Text Questions

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- 1) Starter Question: Share a brief story of a time in your life where you were in danger.
- 2) Read the text aloud and discuss together any significant observations or issues needing clarification.
- 3) What stands out to you about David's prayer given his circumstances?
- 4) What can this passage teach us about the process of lament? (vv. 1-2 → 6-8)
- 5) What does this Psalm teach us about the characteristics of the Lord?
- 6) How can this Psalm comfort the lives of believers today? (general)
- 7) Can Christians today pray imprecatory prayers like David in v. 7? Why or why not?
- 8) When you are in a time of need, is the Lord the first thing you turn to? If not, where do you turn?
- 9) What does it look like to "sing" this Psalm in your life?
- 10) In what area(s) of your life do you need King Jesus to be your shield, sovereign, and strength today?

Further study this week: Passages that are connected to Psalm 3: 2 Samuel 15 (Mon); 2 Samuel 16 (Tues); 2 Samuel 17 (Wed); 2 Samuel 18 (Thurs); Psalm 4 (Fri).