

Psalms 35

No copyright materials are used in this text

The summary and interpretation of the specific chapter and verses are from the Bible, they are religious text that is in the public domain.

Free to Copy and Distribute: Spread the Word!

(Peter Lok)駱沅祺

lokpeter@outlook.com

Bibleao.com

Psalms 35

YouTube Prayer Link

How to overcome difficulties

Psalm 35

David's life has been troubled many times. He was hunted down by Saul and lived on the run for several years, even after becoming king of Israel. We see David overcome difficulties again and again, and he has no poisonous roots left in his heart. What David experienced was not a one-time leap, but a leap in life. So, how did David overcome these difficulties? From David's Psalm 35, we see four keys for David to overcome difficulties. David prayed to God to fight for him; David delighted in God; David repaid evil with good; David praised God and preached God's righteousness in the assembly. The poem goes around two themes, one about personal grievances and the other about crying out to God to rise up and fight for him. David was faithful to Saul, he knew that Saul was chosen by God and anointed by Samuel, so he was unwilling to kill Saul and would not take the initiative to attack Saul. Even if he were strong, he would not fight Judah or Israel; He told King Achish to go against Israel, but in fact he was going to fight the Philistines. So when he was confronted with a lot of slander from Saul's people who came against him, he rose up and cried out to God to fight for him. So if we want to be warriors, like David's warriors, we need to know how to cry out to God in the face of hardship and darkness and when the enemy attacks.

As long as David was alive, Saul felt that he had no sleep and had to get rid of him! This is out of jealousy and greed for power. Saul repaid good for evil to David, but David repaid evil for good for Saul. Even by sparing Saul twice, David's bottom line was to "never harm Saul with his own hands" because he was Jehovah's anointed one. If Saul did something wrong, it was between Saul and God, and God would

judge. In Psalm 35:12-14, David said, "They have repaid me evil for good, and have made my soul miserable."

Life often encounters grievances and sad things, and many misunderstandings and attacks are impossible to distinguish and defend! How can we deal with it? "My God, my lord! Wake up, and judge me, and vindicate my wrongs... Judge me according to your righteousness." It can be our mindset and prayers. Being betrayed by a friend is an extremely sad experience, and when you are suffering, an ungrateful person falls into a well, and you are deeply tormented, and who can relieve the loneliness of your soul? "Jesus shall not change, and shall not change, and shall be and shall be hereafter forever; Parents, brothers, relatives, and friends, sometimes they have to leave, but Jesus does not leave, Jesus does not leave, all things in heaven and earth will change, and Jesus will not change."

"In the midst of David's troubles, his heart rejoiced in the Lord, and David's joy was not because of the plague that befell his enemies, but because of God's salvation. When a person is faced with a hunting situation, his heart and bones should be in fear and trembling, but because David relies on God for salvation, his heart can still be happy by God, and the scriptures say that his bones can speak, because David is very secure, and he knows that God will save him. What is the situation of our hearts and bones in the midst of affliction? Will it be in fear or will it rise up to give thanks and praise God?"

When David was in trouble, the friends and brothers whom he had helped in the past were ungrateful, repaying evil for good, and fell into a trap and framed him. It shows that David was hurt a lot in his relationships, but David did not hide himself in order to protect himself, and although he fell into the panic of his relationships, he said, 'I will praise you in the assembly and praise you among all the people.'" (v.18) He did not give up his relationship, he still chose to have a relationship with God and man, and what David did was to please God. Although David has not yet seen the change in his circumstances, because of his experience with God again and again, David believes that God will save him to the end, so he chooses to thank and praise God in faith.

"Rejoice in the shouts that rejoice in my wrongs; May they always say, "Exalt the Lord always!" Jehovah delights in the peace of his servants. My tongue will speak of thy righteousness all the day long, and will praise thee always. (v.27-28) There are four "vows" in the scriptures, and the result of each of David's "vows" is not for his own selfish gain, but for the glorification of God's name. Although David went through many hardships, he understood that everything that happened to him was from God, and that God had God's good will. So he didn't complain, only thanks and praise. David reined in his tongue, 'My tongue will speak of thy righteousness all the day long, and praise thee always.'"

In the midst of the battle, we need to call on God for help, and we also need to decide what we want to do, and we should not come up with many solutions while crying out for God's help. Sometimes we are spiritual, we know how to do it, we pray, but we live out negative, negative, complaining about untruthful responses, so we have to pay great attention to the cry of a warrior to live like a warrior, to stand firm by the power of God.

Let's pray together:

We are to imitate You. We are to bless and pray for those who resist us. Like the prayer of the Lord on the cross, Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do. Help us, O Lord, to overcome evil with love. Covering many transgressions with love. that we may love our enemies as you do. Lord, we will give thanks to the Lord and praise You in the midst of the crowd throughout our lives. We don't complain

in the crowd and we don't slander others. Let our mouths proclaim thy righteousness and thy virtues all day long. Praise Thee always! Lord, help me to overcome my outward troubles, my outward enemies, and my inner troubles.

Pray in the name of the Lord Jesus' victory. Amen!

Psalm 35

Prayer for Rescue from Enemies.

A Psalm of David.

35 Contend, O Lord, with those who contend with me;

Fight against those who fight against me.

2

Take hold of shield and buckler ([a]small shield),

And stand up for my help.

3

Draw also the spear and javelin to meet those who pursue me.

Say to my soul, "I am your salvation."

4

Let those be ashamed and dishonored who seek my life;

Let those be turned back [in defeat] and humiliated who plot evil against me.

5

Let them be [blown away] like chaff before the wind [worthless, without substance],

With the angel of the Lord driving them on.

6

Let their way be dark and slippery,

With the angel of the Lord pursuing and harassing them.

7

For without cause they hid their net for me;

Without cause they dug a pit [of destruction] for my life.

8

Let destruction come upon my enemy by surprise;

Let the net he hid for me catch him;

Into that very destruction let him fall.

9

Then my soul shall rejoice in the Lord;

It shall rejoice in His salvation.

10

All my bones will say, "Lord, who is like You,

Who rescues the afflicted from him who is too strong for him [to resist alone],

And the afflicted and the needy from him who robs him?"

11

Malicious witnesses rise up;

They ask me of things that I do not know.

12

They repay me evil for good,

To the sorrow of my soul.

13

But as for me, when they were sick, my clothing was sackcloth (mourning garment);

I humbled my soul with fasting,

And I prayed with my head bowed on my chest.

14

I behaved as if grieving for my friend or my brother;

I bowed down in mourning, as one who sorrows for his mother.

15

But in my stumbling they rejoiced and gathered together [against me];

The slanderers whom I did not know gathered against me;

They slandered and reviled me without ceasing.

16

Like godless jesters at a feast,

They gnashed at me with their teeth [in malice].

17

Lord, how long will You look on [without action]?

Rescue my life from their destructions,

My only life from the young lions.

18

I will give You thanks in the great congregation;

I will praise You among a mighty people.

19

Do not let those who are wrongfully my enemies rejoice over me;

Nor let those who hate me without cause wink their eye [maliciously].

20

For they do not speak peace,

But they devise deceitful words [half-truths and lies] against those who are quiet in the land.

21

They open their mouths wide against me;

They say, "Aha, aha, our eyes have seen it!"

22

You have seen this, O Lord; do not keep silent.

O Lord, do not be far from me.

23

Wake Yourself up, and arise to my right

And to my cause, my God and my Lord.

24

Judge me, O Lord my God, according to Your righteousness and justice;

And do not let them rejoice over me.

25

Do not let them say in their heart, "Aha, that is what we wanted!"

Do not let them say, "We have swallowed him up and destroyed him."

26

**Let those be ashamed and humiliated together who rejoice at my distress;
Let those be clothed with shame and dishonor who magnify themselves over me.**

27

**Let them shout for joy and rejoice, who favor my vindication and want what is right for me;
Let them say continually, "Let the Lord be magnified, who delights and takes pleasure in the prosperity of His servant."**

28

**And my tongue shall declare Your righteousness (justice),
And Your praise all the day long.**

Psalm 35 is a powerful and emotional psalm written by David, expressing his deep distress and his plea for God to intervene in the face of unjust persecution. In this psalm, David cries out to God for deliverance from his enemies, asking for divine justice while also committing himself to trust in God's righteousness. The psalm reflects David's intense personal struggle but also his unshakable faith in God's ability to vindicate him and bring judgment upon his foes.

Full Description of Psalm 35

Psalm 35 is a prayer for God's help in times of distress, and it is characterized by several key themes:

1. David's Call for God's Help (Verses 1-3):

- **David begins the psalm by urgently calling on God to contend with his enemies and fight against those who are attacking him. He asks God to use His power to protect and deliver him, acknowledging that only God can truly save him from his adversaries.**

Key Verse:

**"Contend, O Lord, with those who contend with me; fight against those who fight against me."
(Psalm 35:1)**

2. David's Plea for Justice (Verses 4-10):

- **David describes how his enemies have unjustly risen up against him, and he appeals to God for justice. He expresses that they are falsely accusing him and plotting harm against him, even though he has not wronged them. David is confident that God will protect him and bring vindication.**

Key Verses:

"Let them be put to shame and dishonor who seek after my life!" (Psalm 35:4)

"My soul shall rejoice in the Lord, exulting in his salvation." (Psalm 35:9)

3. The False Accusations and Wickedness of His Enemies (Verses 11-16):

- David describes how his enemies have maliciously spoken against him, bringing up lies and slanders that he did not commit. He is especially troubled because they have acted like enemies without cause, showing no regard for justice. This section highlights the cruelty and deceit of his adversaries.

Key Verses:

"Malicious witnesses rise up; they ask me of things that I do not know." (Psalm 35:11)

4. David's Cry for Help (Verses 17-18):

- David calls out to God, asking Him not to remain far from him but to act swiftly and rescue him from his enemies. He longs for God's intervention, knowing that only God can deliver him from such a grave situation.

Key Verse:

"How long, O Lord, will you look on? Rescue me from their destruction, my precious life from the lions!" (Psalm 35:17)

5. Praise for God's Deliverance (Verses 19-28):

- As David anticipates God's justice, he expresses his intent to praise God publicly when he is delivered. He desires that others who love God's justice and righteousness join him in rejoicing. David is confident that God will not allow the wicked to triumph over the righteous, and he will declare God's goodness to the people.

Key Verse:

"Then my soul will rejoice in the Lord, exulting in his salvation." (Psalm 35:9)

Important Verses from Psalm 35

1. Psalm 35:1-3 (David's call for God's intervention):

"Contend, O Lord, with those who contend with me; fight against those who fight against me. Take hold of shield and buckler and rise for my help! Draw the spear and javelin against my pursuers! Say to my soul, 'I am your salvation!'"

This is a passionate cry for God's intervention and protection. David recognizes that his own strength is insufficient to defeat his enemies, and he pleads with God to rise up on his behalf.

2. Psalm 35:4 (David's plea for the defeat of his enemies):

"Let them be put to shame and dishonor who seek after my life! Let them be turned back and disappointed who devise evil against me!"

David prays that his enemies who seek his harm would be defeated and shamed. He asks God to thwart their plans and bring justice.

3. Psalm 35:9 (David's expression of faith in God's salvation):

"Then my soul will rejoice in the Lord, exulting in his salvation."

This verse reveals David's confidence that God will deliver him. It is an expression of hope and trust in God's saving power, even in the midst of distress.

4. Psalm 35:17 (David's urgency for God's help):

"How long, O Lord, will you look on? Rescue me from their destruction, my precious life from the lions!"

David expresses a sense of urgency, asking how long God will wait to intervene. This highlights the intense desperation of David's situation and his plea for God to act swiftly.

5. Psalm 35:28 (David's vow to praise God):

"Then my tongue shall tell of your righteousness and of your praise all the day long."

In this concluding verse, David declares his commitment to continually praise God for His righteousness and deliverance. It signifies the gratitude that flows from experiencing God's justice and mercy.

Spiritual Influence and Lessons from Psalm 35

- 1. Trusting God in the Face of Persecution: Psalm 35 teaches believers how to respond when facing injustice, false accusations, or persecution. Instead of taking matters into our own hands, we are encouraged to turn to God in prayer and trust that He will act on our behalf. David's example shows that in times of trial, we should rely on God's righteousness and justice rather than seeking revenge.**
- 2. God's Justice Will Prevail: David's cries for vindication remind us that God's justice is sure. Even if it seems like the wicked are prospering or the innocent are suffering, God sees all and will ultimately bring justice. We are reminded to place our hope in God's timing and not to lose heart when things seem unfair.**
- 3. The Power of Prayer: Psalm 35 is a model of how to bring our complaints, distress, and petitions before God in prayer. David's raw honesty before God shows that it is acceptable to bring our fears and troubles to God, asking for His intervention and deliverance. Prayer is a powerful tool for seeking God's help in times of trouble.**
- 4. Rejoicing in God's Salvation: Despite the trials David faces, he rejoices in the hope of God's deliverance. This is a reminder to Christians that no matter what challenges we face, we can rejoice in God's promises of salvation. The ultimate deliverance we have is through Christ, who has overcome the world (John 16:33).**
- 5. Public Testimony and Praise: After experiencing God's deliverance, David is determined to publicly praise God. This highlights the importance of sharing our testimonies of God's faithfulness with others. When God answers our prayers, we are called to tell others about His goodness, justice, and mercy.**
- 6. Endurance and Hope: Psalm 35 encourages believers to persevere through trials with hope and patience, knowing that God will not forsake them. Even in moments of deep distress, we can hold onto the certainty that God is with us and will eventually bring about our deliverance.**

Conclusion

Psalm 35 is a profound psalm of lament and trust, illustrating how to turn to God in times of persecution and distress. David's cries for help, his faith in God's justice, and his commitment to praising God for His salvation provide powerful lessons for believers today. In our own lives, when faced with unjust treatment or overwhelming circumstances, we can find comfort and strength in knowing that God is our defender, our deliverer, and our ultimate source of justice.