

David's Trust During Travails

Psalm 3 and 4

Intro/Background

- David is the primary author of Psalms (75 books) including Psalm 3 and 4, both take place when David was fleeing

- Absalom, David's **own son**, had stolen the kingdom from David, turned the nation against him, and was trying to kill him (2 Sam 15-18)

-2 Samuel 15:13-14

¹³ Now a messenger came to David, saying, "The hearts of the men of Israel are with Absalom."

¹⁴ So David said to all his servants who were with him at Jerusalem, "Arise, and let us flee, or we shall not escape from Absalom. Make haste to depart, lest he overtake us suddenly and bring disaster upon us, and strike the city with the edge of the sword."

Psalm 3

I. The Situation (1-2)

¹ LORD, how they have increased who trouble me! Many are they who rise up against me.

² Many are they who say of me, "*There is no help for him in God.*" Selah

A. Adversaries increasing

Psalm 4

² How long, O you sons of men, Will you turn my glory to shame? How long will you love worthlessness And seek falsehood? Selah

² How long, exalted men, will my honor be insulted? [How long] will you love what is worthless and pursue a lie? (Holman)

B. Many rising up against him

C. Many saying, "There is no help for him in God."

II. The Supplication (3-4)

Supplication – asking for humbly or earnestly, generally in prayer

³ But You, O LORD, *are* a shield for me, My glory and the One who lifts up my head.

⁴ I cried to the LORD with my voice, And He heard me from His holy hill. Selah

A. An affirmation of who God is

1. My shield (shields went all around the body–total protection).

-Ephesians 6:16

Above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one

2. My glory (look beyond present shame to see God's glory manifested in your life).

-David attributes any glory he might have to God

3. The one who lifts up my head.

B. An affirmation of what God has done

1. He cried out

2. God answered

Psalm 4

³ But know that the LORD has set apart for Himself him who is godly; The LORD will hear when I call to Him.

-The Holy Hill is Mt. Moriah where the temple was to be built.

III. The Security (5-6)

Psalm 3 - morning

⁵ I lay down and slept;
I awoke, for the LORD sustained me.

⁶ I will not be afraid of ten thousands of people
Who have set themselves against me all around.

A. He laid down and slept in the midst of turmoil

-All around, no way out (from man's perspective)

B. He awoke

C. His fear was conquered.

Psalm 4 - night

⁸ I will both lie down in peace, and sleep; For
You alone, O LORD, make me dwell in safety

IV. The Salvation (7-8)

Psalm 3 - morning

⁷ Arise, O LORD; Save me, O my God! For You have
struck all my enemies on the cheekbone; you have broken
the teeth of the ungodly.

⁸ Salvation *belongs* to the LORD.
Your blessing *is* upon Your people. Selah

A. God arises, and David is saved.

B. Enemy is disarmed (made "toothless")

C. Salvation and blessing are given to God's people

Psalm 4 - night

¹ Hear me when I call, O God of my
righteousness! You have relieved me in my
distress; Have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

Psalm 4

⁴ Be angry, and do not sin. Meditate within your heart on your bed, and be still. Selah

⁵ Offer the sacrifices of righteousness, And put your trust in the LORD.

⁷ You have put gladness in my heart, More than in the season that their grain and wine
increased.