

## PSALM 3

### *Morning Prayer of Trust in God*

#### INTRODUCTION.

- A. From Roy Enoch (10-6-93).
- B. A Psalm of David, when he fled from Absalom his son. This ancient superscription is in harmony with the contents of the psalm.
- C. "Selah" appears several times in the Psalms, but the word is of very obscure meaning. Some suppose that it refers to a pause or rest, or to some other musical notation.

#### THE TEXT.

- 3:1** O LORD, how my adversaries have increased!  
Many are rising up against me.
- 2** Many are saying of my soul,  
"There is no deliverance for him in God." Selah.
- 3** But You, O LORD, are a shield about me,  
My glory, and the One who lifts my head.
- 4** I was crying to the LORD with my voice,  
And He answered me from His holy mountain. Selah.
- 5** I lay down and slept;  
I awoke, for the LORD sustains me.
- 6** I will not be afraid of ten thousands of people  
Who have set themselves against me round about.
- 7** Arise, O LORD; save me, O my God!  
For You have smitten all my enemies on the cheek;  
You have shattered the teeth of the wicked.
- 8** Salvation belongs to the LORD;  
Your blessing *be* upon Your people! Selah.

#### COMMENTS.

- A. It has been said that "trouble drove David to God in prayer, and not away from God in disbelief" (*Leslie S. M'Caw*). The focus is that David looked to God for help and did not despair.
- B. David is confident that the Lord hears and helps. The Lord's "holy hill" is Jerusalem, and especially, Mt. Moriah where the temple was later built. In 2Sam. 6, David brings the Ark to Jerusalem. This prayer is similar to that of Jonah from within the great fish (Jon. 2:7).
- C. From this mention of "lying down" sleeping and awaking have caused some to title this Psalm "A Morning Prayer." It has been read by many in the mornings for ages. That he could sleep shows confidence.
- D. "They have set themselves against me" seems to describe an army arrayed for battle, and would fit the situation of 2Sam. 15,16 when Absalom tried to overthrow his father and take the kingdom.
- E. **[3:7,8]** "You have struck all my enemies" seems to refer to God's faithful deliverance in the past and the basis of confidence that God will also give him victory in this instance.
- F. "Struck... on the cheekbone;.. You have broken the teeth..." seems to represent his enemies as wild animals whose weapons are their jaws and teeth. He pictures God as disarming them and making them harmless. This pictures complete deliverance.