

PRAYER—SEEKING VINDICATION IN THE HIGHEST COURT

PSALM 35

Introduction:

Where do you go when you have suffered great wrong? Suppose you have even suffered great wrong at the hand of the government, where do you take your appeal for help? David was in such a situation. He was suffering great wrong at the hand of King Saul. Saul was not only the sovereign ruler of the land; he was also the Supreme Court of the land. Where could David take his case? Where could he find help?

We need to learn from him—he took his case to the Court of Heaven, to the Judge of all the earth. He took his case to the Court in the form of a prayer. He approached the Judge of all the earth as a supplicant with confidence that the Judge would do right.

It is of interest to us that this is where the greater Son of David took His case when he was the victim of great wrong. Peter reports, “Who when he was reviled, did not revile in return: when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously,” (1 Peter 2:23)

David was right! When Saul wronged him terribly, he never took matters into his own hands. Rather, he prayed. Psalm 35 is a sample of his prayer life during this time of great trial.

I. STATE THE SPECIFICS OF YOUR CASE.

1. The wrong suffered has been without a cause (v. 7)
2. Their accusations have been false (v. 11)
3. Their actions have been full of ingratitude (v. 12-15)
4. They have sought destruction (v. 17)

II. DESCRIBE THE SOLUTION YOU SEEK.

1. The destruction of their plots (v. 4-8)
2. The preservation of his life (v. 17)
3. The vindication of his cause (v. 23-25)

III. SOLICIT THE HELP OF THE COURT.

1. Solicit the defense of the Lord. (v. 1-3)
2. Solicit the action of the Lord (v. 23-25)

IV. EXPRESS YOUR ATTITUDE TOWARD THE JUDGE.

1. Wonder at His goodness (v. 9-10)
2. Thankfulness for His help (v. 18)
3. Exaltation of the righteousness of the Lord. (v. 27-28)