

Sermon: **Confidence in Crisis (Psalm 3)**

Date: **April 15, 2018**

Have you ever found yourself in the midst of a personal crisis or a difficult season in life and you did not know who you could trust or depend upon? David wrote Psalm 3 in the midst of both a personal and national crisis. His son, Absalom had risen up in rebellion against him. David's own son is trying to kill him so that he can take his throne and rule over the kingdom. David writes Psalm 3 in the midst of this conflict. In this week's study, we will learn that in times of crisis we can have confidence in the LORD because salvation belongs to him. Even though David's enemies were multiplying and his own son wanted him dead, he had an unshakeable trust and confidence in the salvation of God. This psalm of lament gives us a voice in the midst of the trials, struggles, and storms of our lives. It helps us journey through a time of crisis. No matter what may come our way in this life, we know that salvation belongs to the LORD. As we study Psalm 3, we will learn that in crisis, we must cry out to the LORD, have confidence in the LORD, plead to the LORD, and praise the LORD.

What you need for this study: Bible, Notebook, Pen

Individual Bible Study

1. Please read Psalm 3 and ensure that you've listened to Sunday's sermon.
 - a. Read 2 Samuel 16-17 to better understand the context of this psalm. Describe the situation in which David finds himself. How would you feel if you were in David's situation?
 - b. What are the first two words of this psalm? Why is this significant?
 - c. What is the function of the three-fold use of "many" in verse 1-2? What does this further teach us about David's current crisis?
 - d. How does David respond to the taunt of his enemy (v. 3-4)? What does this teach us about David's confidence in the LORD?
 - e. How does God respond to David (v. 4a)? How does this encourage you?
 - f. How is it that David is able to lie down and sleep peacefully in the midst of this conflict (v.5)? Why is he not afraid (v. 6)?

- g. How is verse 7 a response to the situation in verses 1-2?
- h. How is it that the psalmist describes God as a shield in verse 3 and also as a destroyer in verse 7?
- i. What does it mean that “salvation belongs to the LORD,” (v. 8)?
- j. How does David end this psalm? Why is it important to praise the LORD in the midst of our trials?

Group Discussion Questions

1. How did the Holy Spirit speak to you through the sermon and the Bible study this week?
2. When a crisis enters into your life, where or to whom are you tempted to turn to first instead of God? Why?
3. What can we do to cultivate a greater trust and confidence in the LORD? How will this help us during times of trial and difficulty in our lives?
4. How did David counter the taunts of his enemies? Why is it important that we be quick to counter taunts of the enemy? How can we train ourselves to do this?
5. How is our prayer lives a good gauge for our confidence in God? How can we cultivate a better individual prayer life? Corporate prayer life? Family prayer life?
6. Read verse 8. In what ways does this verse encourage you? How does it provide hope in the midst of crisis?