

Psalm 35 ~ America's Battle Psalm

September 7, 1774, 9:00am



Psalm 35 was the assigned Psalter Reading for Sept 7, 1774 when the First Continental Congress met. To those attending, it seemed like this Psalm was assigned from Heaven for that day. Remarkably, it was not only assigned for that day, but for all days that the United States faces enemies that seek to destroy it.

Psalm 35*

Warfare Praying

O LORD, oppose those who oppose us.

Fight those who fight against us.

² Put on your armor, and take up your shield.

Prepare for battle, and come to our aid.

**³ Lift up your spear and javelin
against those who pursue us.**

Let us hear you say,

"I will give you victory!"

**⁴ Bring shame and disgrace on those trying to kill us;
turn them back and humiliate those who want to harm**

us.

**⁵ Blow them away like chaff in the wind—
a wind sent by the angel of the LORD.**

**⁶ Make their path dark and slippery,
with the angel of the LORD pursuing them.**

**⁷ We did them no wrong, but they laid a trap for us.
We did them no wrong, but they dug a pit to catch us.**

**⁸ So let sudden ruin come upon them!
Let them be caught in the trap they set for us!
Let them be destroyed in the pit they dug for us.**

Praise to God

⁹ Then we will rejoice in the LORD.

We will be glad because He rescues us.

**¹⁰ With every bone in our body we will
praise Him:**

**"LORD, who can compare with you?
Who else rescues the helpless from the
strong?"**

**Who else protects the helpless and
poor from those who rob them?"**



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Description of the Wicked

- ¹¹ Malicious witnesses testify against us.
They accuse us of crimes we know nothing about.
- ¹² They repay us evil for good.
we are sick with despair.
- ¹³ Yet when they were ill, we grieved for them.
we denied ourselves by fasting for them,
but our prayers returned unanswered.
- ¹⁴ We were sad, as though they were our friends or family,
as if we were grieving for our own mother.
- ¹⁵ But they are glad now that we are in trouble;
they gleefully join together against us.
We are attacked by people we don't even know;
they slander us constantly.
- ¹⁶ They mock us and call us names;
they snarl at us.

Rescue Us

- ¹⁷ How long, O Lord, will you look on and do nothing?
Rescue us from their fierce attacks.
Protect our life from these lions!
- ¹⁸ Then we will thank you in front of the great assembly.
we will praise you before all the people.
- ¹⁹ Don't let our treacherous enemies rejoice over our defeat.
Don't let those who hate us without cause gloat over our sorrow.

Description of the Wicked

- ²⁰ They don't talk of peace;
they plot against innocent people who mind their own business.
- ²¹ They shout, "Aha! Aha!
With our own eyes we saw them do it!"

Defend Us

- ²² O LORD, you know all about this.
Do not stay silent.
Do not abandon us now, O Lord.
- ²³ Wake up! Rise to our defense!
Take up our case, our God and our Lord.
- ²⁴ Declare us not guilty, O LORD our God, for you give justice.
Don't let our enemies laugh about us in our troubles.
- ²⁵ Don't let them say, "Look, we got what we wanted!
Now we will eat them alive!"

Warfare Praying

- ²⁶ **May those who rejoice at our troubles
be humiliated and disgraced.**
**May those who triumph over us
be covered with shame and dishonor.**

Praise to Our Great God

- ²⁷ But give great joy to those who came to our defense.
Let them continually say, "Great is the LORD,
who delights in blessing His servant with peace!"
- ²⁸ Then we will proclaim your justice,
and we will praise you all day long.

