

Psalm 064 - A Prayer for Protection

David was probably serving in Saul's court when he wrote this psalm (1 Sam 18-20). He knew that the king was his enemy and most of Saul's officers were conspiring against him. Although David was the anointed king, he had no authority to oppose Saul and eventually had to flee to the wilderness as a fugitive.

Psalm 64

[To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David.]

The Battle of Life

- 1 Hear my voice, God, in my complaint; Protect my life from dread of the enemy.
 - 1 Hear my voice, O God, in my complaint; Preserve my life from dread of the enemy.
 - 1 Hear, God, as I express my concern; protect me from fear of the enemy.
 - 1 Hear my voice, O God, in my prayer: preserve my life from fear of the enemy.
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- 2 Hide me from the secret discussion of evildoers, From the restlessness of the workers of injustice,
 - 2 Hide me from the secret counsel of evildoers, From the tumult of those who do iniquity,
 - 2 Hide me from the secret plots of the wicked, from the mob of those who practice evil,
 - 2 Hide me from the secret counsel of the wicked; from the insurrection of the workers of iniquity:
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- 3 Who have sharpened their tongues like a sword. They aimed bitter speech as their arrows,
 - 3 Who have sharpened their tongue like a sword. They aimed bitter speech as their arrow,
 - 3 who sharpen their tongues like swords, and aim their bitter words like arrows,
 - 3 Who whet their tongue like a sword, and bend their bows to shoot their arrows, even bitter words:
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- 4 To shoot from concealment at the innocent; Suddenly they shoot at him, and do not fear.
 - 4 To shoot from concealment at the blameless; Suddenly they shoot at him, and do not fear.
 - 4 shooting at the innocent from concealment. Suddenly they shoot, fearing nothing.
 - 4 That they may shoot in secret at the perfect: suddenly do they shoot at him, and fear not.

5 They make firm for themselves an evil purpose; They talk of setting snares secretly; They say, "Who can see them?"

5 They hold fast to themselves an evil purpose; They talk of laying snares secretly; They say, "Who can see them?"

5 They concoct an evil scheme for themselves; they enumerate their hidden snares; they say, "Who will see them?"

5 They encourage themselves in an evil matter: they commune of laying snares privily; they say, Who shall see them?

6 They devise injustices, *saying*, "We are ready *with* a well-conceived plot"; For the inward thought and the heart of a person are deep.

6 They devise injustices, *saying*, "We are ready with a well-conceived plot"; For the inward thought and the heart of a man are deep.

6 They devise wicked schemes, *saying*, "We have completed our plans, hiding them deep in our hearts."

6 They search out iniquities; they accomplish a diligent search: both the inward thought of every one of them, and the heart, is deep.

7 But God will shoot an arrow at them;
Suddenly they will be wounded.

7 But God will shoot at them with an arrow;
Suddenly they will be wounded.

7 But God shot an arrow at them,
and they were wounded immediately.

7 But God shall shoot at them with an arrow; suddenly shall they be wounded.

8 So they will make him stumble; Their own tongue is against them; All who see *them* will shake their heads.

8 So they will make him stumble; Their own tongue is against them; All who see them will shake the head.

8 They tripped over their own tongues, and everyone who was watching ran away.

8 So they shall make their own tongue to fall upon themselves: all that see them shall flee away.

9 Then all people will fear, And they will declare the work of God, And will consider what He has done.

9 Then all men will fear, And they will declare the work of God, And will consider what He has done.

9 Everyone was gripped with fear and acknowledged God's deeds, understanding what he had done.

9 And all men shall fear, and shall declare the work of God; for they shall wisely consider of his doing.

10 The righteous person will be glad in the LORD and take refuge in Him; And all the upright in heart will boast.

10 The righteous man will be glad in the LORD and will take refuge in Him; And all the upright in heart will glory.

10 The righteous rejoiced in the LORD, because they had fled to him for refuge. Let all the upright in heart exult.

10 The righteous shall be glad in the LORD, and shall trust in him; and all the upright in heart shall glory.