



When the Odds Are Against You

Psalm 3

Message Notes by Dr. Mark Platt

What do you do when everything and everybody is against you? What do you do when the deck is stacked and the odds are against you?

King David dealt with this exact situation. The preface to this psalm says: “*A psalm of David when he fled from his son Absalom.*” David was overthrown as king. He was outnumbered by a huge army. He was overwhelmed by betrayals. He was chased by enemies. Things looked bleak.

Yet, David sees God in this middle of all this. Here in Psalm 3, he gives us **three actions** you can take when the odds are against you:

I. Let God surround you

“a shield around you” (verses 3-4)

1. with His encouragement

“bestow glory on me and lift up my head”

2. with His help

“He answers me from His holy hill”

II. Let God sustain you

“the Lord sustains me” (verses 5-7)

1. with inner peace

“I lie down and sleep; I wake again”

2. with promised protection

“I will not fear ...”

III. Let God save you

“deliverance” (verse 8)

1. with salvific deliverance

“From the LORD comes deliverance”

2. with continued deliverance

“May your blessing be on Your people”

Your Response:

1. After studying Psalm 3, what new things did you learn about God? What does God want you to do with this new information?
2. Is there sin in your life that needs confession and repentance? What needs to be changed in your life?
3. What in this Scripture passage has affected you? How are you encouraged and strengthened by this psalm?
4. What does this psalm say about what you can learn and change? Where and when should you start these changes?
5. What can you model and teach others from this psalm? Is there someone that needs to hear these truths from you this week?

Resources:

Psalms (volume 1) by James Montgomery Boice
A Bend in the Road by David Jeremiah
For the Tough Times by Max Lucado
Exposition of Psalms by H.C. Leupold
Psalms by Elmer Leslie