

Scripture: Psalm 35 **Time:** 7:00-7:45 **Focus:** A Prayer for Deliverance

Thesis: A Prayer for Deliverance from Enemies

Teaching Points:

1. David's Plea for God's Help

A. This Psalm is David's individual prayer for God's help against his enemies and adversaries during his personal crises. He prays for God to use all of the weapons of battle against them to stop them. (Vs 1-3)

B. David prays that his enemies will be defeated, hunted down, destroyed, and caught in the traps and pitfalls they prepared for Him to take his life. (Vs 4-6)

2. David Declares His Innocence before God

A. David tells God of his integrity and innocence toward his enemies who are trying to kill him without a cause. (Vs 7-8)

B. David has confidence in the Lord's help and promises to rejoice and praise Him for His deliverance. (Vs 9-10)

C. David was hurt because those who he counted as friends and prayed for during their times of trouble rose up against him and falsely accused him of things, he knew nothing about. In his time of troubles his friends showed him no sympathy. David called them hypocrites. (Vs 11-16)

3. David Renews His Appeal for God's Help

A. David prays for himself with despair because he needs God to rescue him from the cruelty his enemies has planned for him. (Vs 17)

B. David once again promises to give God thanks and praise before the congregation of people as a testimony of God's deliverance. (Vs 18)

C. David prays that his enemies will not be able to rejoice for what they did to him, but they will be the ones who are made the fools. (Vs 19-21)

4. David Prays for Vindication

A. David expresses his human desire for divine intervention on his behalf. He prays for God's righteous judgment upon him so that his enemies will not be able to rejoice over him. (Vs 22-25)

B. While his enemies will be put to shame, David and his true friends will shout for joy, magnify the Lord, and praise Him every day long for His deliverance. (Vs 26-28)

4. Summary: This Psalm is a composition of three different please for God's help on three different occasions in David's life. His friends have now become his enemies and now seek to kill him because of false accusations. On the surface this may seem like a prayer of malice and revenge, but on the contrary, it is a prayer for his enemies to repent and return to God. The prayer ends with vows to praise God.