

# The Kingdom Hope in Psalms

## Psalm 3-7

### Anticipating God's Victory and Deliverance

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*7 Arise, O Lord;  
Save me, O my God!  
For You have struck all my enemies on the cheekbone;  
You have broken the teeth of the ungodly.  
8 Salvation belongs to the Lord.  
Your blessing is upon Your people. Selah Psalm 3*

In this and many other places, David cries out to God for deliverance, and virtually in the same breath, praises God for deliverance from his enemies. Most of these have a simple reference to the deliverance that God gave David from the enemies that he was battling at that time. Nevertheless, there is also a strong sense in which these passages are **anticipatory** of the deliverance that God will bring when He rescues the righteous and the faithful of the nation of Israel from the forces of the wicked at His second coming. This can be seen in the next three Psalms as well.

*1 Hear me when I call, O God of my righteousness!  
You have relieved me in my distress;  
Have mercy on me, and hear my prayer.  
2 How long, O you sons of men,  
Will you turn my glory to shame?  
How long will you love worthlessness  
And seek falsehood? Selah  
3 But know that the LORD has set apart for Himself him who is godly;  
The LORD will hear when I call to Him. Psalm 4  
5 The boastful shall not stand in Your sight;  
You hate all workers of iniquity.  
6 You shall destroy those who speak falsehood;  
The LORD abhors the bloodthirsty and deceitful man.  
7 But as for me, I will come into Your house in the multitude of Your mercy;  
In fear of You I will worship toward Your holy temple.  
8 Lead me, O LORD, in Your righteousness because of my enemies;  
Make Your way straight before my face. Psalm 5*

The “bloodthirsty and deceitful man” finds its archetype in the “man of sin” spoken of in relation to the last days. He, along with all those who can be described as “bloodthirsty and deceitful” will be destroyed at the return of Christ.

1 O LORD, do not rebuke me in Your anger,  
Nor chasten me in Your hot displeasure.  
2 Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I am weak;  
O LORD, heal me, for my bones are troubled.  
3 My soul also is greatly troubled;  
But You, O LORD—how long?  
4 Return, O LORD, deliver me!  
Oh, save me for Your mercies' sake!  
5 For in death there is no remembrance of You;  
In the grave who will give You thanks?  
6 I am weary with my groaning;  
All night I make my bed swim;  
I drench my couch with my tears.  
7 My eye wastes away because of grief;  
It grows old because of all my enemies.  
8 Depart from me, all you workers of iniquity;  
For the LORD has heard the voice of my weeping.  
9 The LORD has heard my supplication;  
The LORD will receive my prayer.  
10 Let all my enemies be ashamed and greatly troubled;  
Let them turn back and be ashamed suddenly. Psalm 6

The cry, “how long” is echoed by every saint who has suffered for his or her faith. This cry will continue to echo and resound until the enemies of the Messiah are suddenly “turned back,” “shamed” and “greatly troubled.” This will happen at the Lord's return.

6 Arise, O LORD, in Your anger;  
Lift Yourself up because of the rage of my enemies;  
Rise up for me to the judgment You have commanded!  
7 So the congregation of the peoples shall surround You;  
For their sakes, therefore, return on high.  
8 The LORD shall judge the peoples;  
Judge me, O Lord, according to my righteousness,  
And according to my integrity within me.  
9 Oh, let the wickedness of the wicked come to an end,  
But establish the just;  
For the righteous God tests the hearts and minds.  
10 My defense is of God,  
Who saves the upright in heart.

*11 God is a just judge,  
And God is angry with the wicked every day.  
12 If he does not turn back,  
He will sharpen His sword;  
He bends His bow and makes it ready.  
13 He also prepares for Himself instruments of death;  
He makes His arrows into fiery shafts. Psalm 7*

This Psalm, like Psalms 3-6, is a prayer for deliverance. But the anticipatory aspect strongly merges into a prophecy of the Blessed Hope. Verse 6 speaks of the judgment that has been decreed. Verse 7 mentions the congregation of the righteous for whose sake He will "return." Verse 8 tells of the judgment of the nations. Verse 9 assures us of the end of wickedness. Verses 12-13 warn of the fiery judgment that will fall on the unrepentant. These things can only be truly associated with the second coming of Christ when He "returns" from on High to deliver the righteous and destroy the wicked.

The term "arise" (Verse 6) is the same word (Hebrew - 'kumah') used in Psalm 3:7. We believe that the significance of this word, when referring to God, is eschatological referring to the second coming of Christ. It is used this way many times including all of the following: Psalm 9:19; 10:12; 12:5; 17:13; 44:26; 68:1; 74:22; 82:8; 102:13; 132:8; Isaiah 2:19, 21; 14:22; 28:21; 31:2; 33:10.