

PSALM 35

Lay wait O Lord, against each contender; consume the consumers, and be my defender.

- 2 Strap on Your shield, with buckler and hook; rise as my helper, to You do I look.
- 3 Lift up Your spearhead, against my pursuers; say to my soul, "I'm your saving maneuvers."
- 4 Wound and confound them, who search out my soul; turn and confuse them, for evil's their goal.
- 5 As chaff that is winnowed, and thrown to the wind; let Your angel chase them, and bring the Lord's end.
- 6 Their way in the darkness, a treacherous path; dispatch forth Your angel, to hunt them in wrath.
- 7 They hide without reason, a snare unto death; they pry uninvited, to take my last breath.
- 8 Send a tempest before him, unknown to his gaze; caught in the hidden net, his hands have made.
- 9 My soul will rejoice, and be glad in the Lord; cheered by the vic'try, salvation affords.
- 10 All my bones speak, "Lord O who is like Thee?" Saving the humble, from sore robbery.
- 11 Violent liars, give witness untrue; demanding of me, things that I never knew.
- 12 They pay back my doings, with sorrow and strife; for the good that I've done, bereaving my life.
- 13 But when they were ill, coarse sacking I wore; fasting and prayerful, from deep in my core.
- 14 I walked before them, as a friend or a brother; stooping in ashes, as mourning a mother.
- 15 When I limped they were glad, and assembled to smite; secretly rending me, all through the night.
- 16 At feasts they all mock, with a hypocrite's speech; grating on me, as they gnash with their teeth.
- 17 Lord will You look on, not rescue my life? Your beloved from lions, their tempest and strife.
- 18 I will lift up my hands, in the great congregation; give praise to Your name, before the whole nation.
- 19 Let not my foes falsely, rejoice over me; winking the eye, in their hate haughtily.
- 20 They never arrange, that in peace we may stand; weaving a fraud, when we rest in the land.
- 21 They broadened their mouth, ever wide against me; saying "Aha, for our eyes always see."

- 22 But You've seen O Lord, so hold not Your tongue; stay ever near Lord, till justice is done.
- 23 Rise and awake, to my verdict so just; help me O Lord God, for in You I trust.
- 24 Judge me O Lord God, for right I have been; nor let them delight, in their unfounded sin.
- 25 Nor say in their hearts, "Ah 'tis good to our soul"; never proclaiming, "We swallowed him whole!"
- 26 Shame and confuse them, for evil's their glee; wrap in dishonor, those proud against me.
- 27 Let them shout with joy, who delight in my rest; pleased and so happy, His servant is blessed.
- 28 My tongue shall proclaim, all Your justice in song; praise You with hymns, singing all the day long.