



PRAYING THE PSALMS

Psalms 31-35



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PSALMS 31 TO 35

PSALM 31

God, please heal my emotions.

Psa 31:1 (NIV) For the director of music. A psalm of David. In you, O LORD, I have taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; deliver me in your righteousness.

I have brought my emotions into Your protective power. I am looking to You for stability and peace. I know You will hear me because of Your great righteousness. You are a great God Who understand the weakness of my feelings. My heart is powerful. I controls all the emotions of my life. When it is attacked, I react in shameful ways. I show my weaknesses and fears. Protect my heart. It can only talk to me with emotional feelings and attitudes. It is more powerful than the logic of my mind. It won't respond to reason. I try to help it relax and remain calm. But, nothing I try brings it into peace and trust. Deliver me from the pain I am experiencing. Help my heart to put its total trust in You.

Psa 31:2 (NIV) Turn your ear to me, come quickly to my rescue; be my rock of refuge, a strong fortress to save me. You alone are going to be able to calm me down. Listen to the stress and sadness of my heart. Come quickly to my rescue. My heart is out of control and is bringing me into great shame. Bring rock solid protection to its raging storms. Hold my emotions in a strong fortress of Your love. Save me from all my fears and depressions. Give my heart the assurance of Your power. I am like water without a cup. My outlook on life is negatively skewed. Rescue me from the attacks against it. Make me strong in the protection You provide.

Psa 31:3 (NIV) Since you are my rock and my fortress, for the sake of your name lead and guide me. I only look to You for all my needs. You are the only One Who can protect me. I have placed my emotions on the foundation of You, my Rock. I have hid them in You as my Fortress. People know I belong to You. For the sake of Your Name, lead me into places of peace and safety. Guide my emotions into complete trust in You. Let the whole world know that You provide Your children everything they need. Let me be a great example of Your provisions. Let them look at my life and see Your love and great healing power.

Psa 31:4 (NIV) Free me from the trap that is set for me, for you are my refuge.

Satan is attacking my emotions and trying to keep me from being able to live Your life in front of these people. He attacks me with all kinds of lies and evil possibilities. Close up my emotions to all he has to say. Help me see that they are all lies. Set me free from this tendency to yield to negative thoughts. Heal me from the trap of allowing these thoughts to build and develop. Let me immediately start thinking the Truths of Your Word. Give me the power to start looking at how great and loving You are. Bring my thoughts into Your protection. I want to look to You for what I should be thinking and feeling. I feel safe in Your mighty hands.

Psa 31:5 (NIV) Into your hands I commit my spirit; redeem me, O LORD, the God of truth. I place my eternal spirit into the care of Your hands. You have saved me from eternal death. You have given me great eternal hope. You have made me pure in Your sight. You have adopted me as Your child. All of Your great supply has been made available to me. Your Truth has set me free from the lies of the devil. I turn my ears to listen to what You have to say. I hear Your Truth and reject all the lies of the devil. My eternal destiny is safely locked into Your hands. You are holding me and keeping me for all eternity. Because of Your great salvation, I am going to live with You forever.

Psa 31:6 (NIV) I hate those who cling to worthless idols; I trust in the LORD.

God, I use to be looking to all sorts of things for help. I tried to keep myself safe from harm by looking to worldly supplies. My fears would subside for a short while. Then I would find myself back in great worry and concern. Everything the world has to offer has side-effects. One solution brings many other problems. To trust in the world for my help, I would have to spend all my money to buy the help I need. I would have to work day and night just to have the money to pay for the world's help. I would become a slave to the world system. But, since I have put my trust in You, I am blessed with Your provisions without side-effects or expense.

Psa 31:7 (NIV) I will be glad and rejoice in your love, for you saw my affliction and knew the anguish of my soul. You are replacing all my negative emotions with gladness and rejoicing. You saw how depressed and fearful I was. You knew all about the pain and suffering I was going through. I can feel Your love. I open my heart to Your arms of compassion and care. No one has been able to help me like You. My suffering was only treated with temporary relief. Nothing or no one was able to reach into my heart and heal it. Even those who benefited from me financially, were unable to set me free. As I look at Your greatness, I can feel Your hand of healing reaching deep down into the dark places of my heart. I can feel the warmth of Your love healing everything I give to You.

Psa 31:8 (NIV) You have not handed me over to the enemy but have set my feet in a spacious place. Contrary to the lies of the devil, You didn't allow the evil he said would happen. You didn't allow him to do what he was threatening to do. You held me tight and refused to give me over to his plans. You demonstrated Your great power and love by protecting me from everything Satan tried to do. You removed me from all evil circumstances. You placed me in a great place of safety. I am now safe as I stand in a great area where I am surrounded by wonderful things. You didn't just hide me in a small room. You placed me in a castle of wonderful protection. I have a life in a spacious place. I am free from harm in a whole new world of Your blessings. Great avenues of opportunity have been opened to me. Your deliverance has been bountiful.

Psa 31:9 (NIV) Be merciful to me, O LORD, for I am in distress; my eyes grow weak with sorrow, my soul and my body with grief. I am sorry for allowing myself to go back to places You delivered me from. I feel guilty about the ups and downs I sometimes experience. Satan tries to tell me that You don't want to keep setting me free. He says You are tired of my emotional swings. He says You have healed me once and don't want to be bothered with it anymore. But, I appeal to Your mercy. I know You look at me with through Jesus' grace. Even though it is the same old emotional issues, it is about a new battle against Satan. I come to You in confidence that You will always be there to lead me through every new distress of life. Even though I needed You yesterday, doesn't mean that I don't need You again today. Even though You gave me a victory yesterday, doesn't mean I don't need a victory today. I am going to need Your victories everyday of my life. Lift me up from this new distress, weakness, sorrow, and grief. I need You just as much today and I did yesterday. I will need You just as much tomorrow as I need You today.

Psa 31:10 (NIV) My life is consumed by anguish and my years by groaning; my strength fails because of my affliction, and my bones grow weak. I present my case to You again. I bring my emotions to You with new faith. I know You will never reject me. Yesterday You worked me miracles, so, now I have faith to bring this new anguish to You. You have healed my emotions many times in the past. I remember and am going over each and every one of them right now. I praise You for the comfort You gave me during all of those times of affliction. Even those my groaning has been often, You have never turned Your back on me. Every time You reached down into my situation and have worked supernatural miracles in my life and my emotions. Therefore, I know You will hear me and help me now.

Psa 31:11 (NIV) Because of all my enemies, I am the utter contempt of my neighbors; I am a dread to my friends-- those who see me on the street flee from me. Lord, I feel like everyone has rejected me. Even my friends are tired of all the things I go through. They are tired of hearing my many complains. My afflictions and groaning have driven them all away. When they see me coming, they try to avoid me. They don't want to hear anymore of my sorrows. All the depression and worry I feel makes people want to avoid me. I am so negative and depressing to be around. Fortunately You aren't like that. You will always be with me through times when others can't stand me. I am never too much for You. You love me and accept me. You know what Satan is saying to me. You know that it is because of my enemy that I look and act the way I do.

Psa 31:12 (NIV) I am forgotten by them as though I were dead; I have become like broken pottery. If it were up to my neighbors and friends, I would be like a dead person. I would be treated like a useless and broken container. No one would ever seek to be around me. They would quickly forget that I even exist. But, You are my friend. You will repair my heart. You will never forget about me. You will never get tired of my complaints. Instead, You see how I am being rejected by my friends. You are making up for the loss I am experiencing. I don't blame my friends for not wanting to try to help me anymore. I know they don't have the answer. You alone, God, can heal the brokenness of my heart.

Psa 31:13 (NIV) For I hear the slander of many; there is terror on every side; they conspire against me and plot to take my life. All my enemies think this is the time to attack. They are using this opportunity to say all kinds of slanderous things about me. They think that their opinion matters to me. They believe that I will let them finish me off. They don't realize that You are supporting me. Even though my emotions are at their weakest point, I still am being held up by You. I can see all kinds of things that could destroy me. Terror is surrounding me on every side. But, You are bigger than all that terror. You are giving me the assurance that You will resist it all. I feel You working in my trembling heart. Your quiet voice is more powerful than all the screaming of my enemies. They are making plans to take my life. But, they have to go through You to get to me. All the slander, all the terror they are generating against me, and all their plots are in vain. You are greater inside of me than all my enemies in the world.

Psa 31:14 (NIV) But I trust in you, O LORD; I say, "You are my God." I now take my eyes off of all my enemies. I direct my attention to You and Your greatness. I attach my emotions to You. I am opening up my heart and letting Your greatness shine in. I look to You because You are my God. I do believe in You. I know You are God of the universe. You have created all things. There is nothing that can resist You. There is nothing or no one bigger than You. I remove my trust from my enemies. I stop seeing them as being a threat to my existence. I see You as being much greater than they are. They have to defeat You before they can hurt me. And, You are undefeatable.

Psa 31:15 (NIV) My times are in your hands; deliver me from my enemies and from those who pursue me. It is a wonderful experience to call out to You. I love bringing my situations before You. It is a great feeling to realize that You are holding my life here on earth in Your hands. When I cry out to You for deliverance, I feel Your presence in my heart. When I ask You to deliver me from my enemies, I can feel Your assurance well up in my emotions. Deliver me from those who are trying to do me harm. Set me free from their influence in my heart. Let me know that I have nothing to fear. Speak to my heart and free it from all depression. Fill it with the knowledge that You are my constant protector. Let my heart see how much greater You are than all my problems.

Psa 31:16 (NIV) Let your face shine on your servant; save me in your unfailing love. Set my eyes on Your face. I can only look one direction at a time. I now take my eyes off of my problems. I now see Your radiant face looking at me with love. I receive all of Your salvation. You haven't saved me to be defeated. You have saved me to live a victorious life before the people of this world. They shall see Your great work in my life and seek You for their situations. I will tell them of these victories You have given me and they will know that You love them too. Your love that was poured into someone else's life spilled over into mine. As they shared how great You were to them, I believed that You would do the same for me. I open my life up to be a vessel to share Your deliverance with others.

Psa 31:17 (NIV) **Let me not be put to shame, O LORD, for I have cried out to you; but let the wicked be put to shame and lie silent in the grave.** All the defeats and moments of unbelief have hurt my testimony to others. Those times I only looked to my situation were times when I had no story to tell others. I only had shame in my life. No one wanted what I had to offer. Defeat and depression was all I could give. But, now I cry out to You. My eyes are redirected to what You have to offer me and my friends. Set me free from all the shame and loss. Make me into a warrior that fights against things that ruin my influence. Use me to bring glory to Your Name. Let the victories You have produced in my life be the weapon that sets others free from the wicked. Let the wicked be put to shame. If they will not repent, send them to the grave. Silence their voice and influence against the oppressed. Use the powerful work You are doing in me to set the captives free.

Psa 31:18 (NIV) **Let their lying lips be silenced, for with pride and contempt they speak arrogantly against the righteous.** All of Satan's lies were used to defeat me and my ministry to others. All of the lies of Satan's people are being used to come against all who want to put their trust in You. They are attacking all of our emotions and causing us to cower and cringe at all their threats and plans. You resist the proud. Stop their mouths. Show the whole world that You are against them. They come in pride and contempt against Your people. They speak arrogantly against us and Your Son. They are trying to fill the world with their opinions and philosophies. Raise us, Your people, up to go forth as a mighty army against them and all they stand for.

Psa 31:19 (NIV) **How great is your goodness, which you have stored up for those who fear you, which you bestow in the sight of men on those who take refuge in you.** God, Your goodness is great. I want the whole world to see Your work in and through me. Your goodness isn't just for me. It is for all who respect and fear You. I have taken refuge in You. I have put my total trust in You. My message is shaped by the miraculous work You have done through that relationship. My message isn't about how systems and principles of the world helped me. I am not singing praises to the greatness of science. My message is because You have been greater than all the world has to offer. My life is an example of Your goodness that You have stored up for all who fear You. Bestow Your goodness on all Your people. Give them a great story to tell the whole world. Let the world see You doing all this goodness to Your people.

Psa 31:20 (NIV) **In the shelter of your presence you hide them from the intrigues of men; in your dwelling you keep them safe from accusing tongues.** Bless Your people. Pour out all You have to offer on them. Set them free from trusting in the accomplishments of men. Show Yourself strong in Your people. Protect them from the plans that the world has for them. Hold Your people in the protection of Your presence. Let Your great wisdom flow through them against all the lies of the world. Give them victory over all the world's efforts. Use Your people to proclaim Your great gospel to every person on earth.

Psa 31:21 (NIV) Praise be to the LORD, for he showed his wonderful love to me when I was in a besieged city. I praise You with everything I am and have. I was totally lost in fear and depression. My life was bound up so that I couldn't lift my voice in praise before You. But, even though I was being attacked from every direction, You have set me free. I can now show forth Your greatness to everyone. Praise has filled my heart. Your wonderful love has opened up my heart. I can now praise and worship You with all my heart. I will be able to proclaim Your goodness to all who will listen. I can tell the whole world how I was surrounded with defeat and shame. I can explain how horrible my life was. I will be able to share the greatness of the deliverance. You are worthy of all my praise. You are worthy of all my ministry of praise before the people of this world.

Psa 31:22 (NIV) In my alarm I said, "I am cut off from your sight!" Yet you heard my cry for mercy when I called to you for help. I get overwhelmed by the attacks that come against me. I become more aware of the situation than I am of Your presence. I sometimes allow the satanic efforts to appear bigger than You are. I am sorry that I see things from a wrong perspective. I repent of my false words. I am sorry that I say things that are not true. Help me to have more control over my mouth. I don't want to say things about You that hurt Your heart. I am sorry that I allow fear to cause me to be alarmed. When I get alarmed, I say things that I shouldn't say. Bring peace to my heart. Help me stay in total trust in You. You always hear my cry. Because I am able to appeal to Your mercy, You are always there to see me through.

Psa 31:23 (NIV) Love the LORD, all his saints! The LORD preserves the faithful, but the proud he pays back in full. I love You, God. Help me to lead all Your saints in praise and love toward You. You always preserve us for Your glory. Your Holy Spirit has taught us how to be humble before You. He has helped us be faithful to You. We would be proud and arrogant against You, if it weren't for Your Holy Spirit. He has made it possible for us to receive all You have to offer. Thank You for Your Son and Your Holy Spirit. With all of their provisions, training, and empowering; we are all being blessed and protected by You, mighty God. I thank You for all You are and all You are doing in and through my life and ministry.

Psa 31:24 (NIV) Be strong and take heart, all you who hope in the LORD. Make me strong in You and in the power of Your might. Put Your power in my emotions. Let my heart be filled with hope in You. Give a new strength to my heart's emotional expressions. Give my heart a renewed trust in You. Set me free from all doubt. Give me total faith in You and Your love. Help me to immediately look to You rather than the situations. Set my eyes on You. Deliver me from putting my faith in what others can do to me. Deliver me from faith in circumstances. Help me to always keep my eyes of faith locked on You and all You have to offer.

PSALM 32

God, I thank You for **salvation**.

Psa 32:1 (NIV) Of David. A maskil. Blessed is he whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. Thank You, God for forgiving me for all the sins and transgressions I have committed against You and those around me. The blood of Jesus has covered them all and has cleansed me from all penalty for them. What a wonderful God Who will make such a great sacrifice for providing all this forgiveness. I know it was a very painful thing for You to have to do. Even greater than watching Your Son be beat and hanged on a cross was Him being separated from You. When He cried out: “My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?” I am sure that ripped Your heart out. Thank You heavenly Father and Jesus for such a tremendous sacrifice. I know I am not worth it. Your grace and mercy are far beyond anything I can fathom.

Psa 32:2 (NIV) Blessed is the man whose sin the LORD does not count against him and in whose spirit is no deceit. Heavenly Father, thank You for being willing to let Your Son become sin for me and everyone else. I am so thankful that He absorbed all of our sins into Himself. With His sinless conditions, He was able to take all our sins on Him to be nailed to a cross. My death would have been justice. His death was grace and mercy. I would have died for eternity. He was able to die once, raise from the dead, and raise me from the dead. Righteousness has been credited to my account. You removed all deceit from my spirit. I am not only free. I am totally free.

Psa 32:3 (NIV) When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. When I refused to accept Your salvation, I suffered great pain and anguish. When I tried to act like I didn't need Your forgiveness, my body and my emotions started spiraling downward into the grave. I tried to hide my sinfulness from You. I tried to pretend that I wasn't all that bad. The more I tried to handle things on my own, the more my life grew dark and miserable. My sins became more evil and deadly. My thoughts became more dark and sinful. Sin grew in my heart like roots. It spread all through my thoughts and desires. The sins became constant desires of my body. I started planning new ways to get by with more sin. I gradually stopped caring that I was sinning. I just worried about getting caught.

Psa 32:4 (NIV) For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer. Selah. But, You started dealing with my heart. Your Holy Spirit began convicting me of my sins. He helped me see how much I was hurting those around me. He made me feel wrong about all the things I was doing. He showed me how evil I really was. He helped me stop trying to justify all my sinful activities. It no longer was just an issue of not getting caught. It wasn't so much that I cared about other's opinions. I was starting to not like who I was anymore. You helped me see myself the way I really was. I didn't like the person I had become. I couldn't believe You would even want to have anything to do with me. My sins had become very sinful to me. I wanted to change and become a better person. But, I couldn't see how that was going to be possible.

Psa 32:5 (NIV) Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD"-- and you forgave the guilt of my sin. **Selah.** Finally I came to You in my sinful condition. I finally admitted that I was a sinner and needed help. I opened up my heart and life to You, Who are pure and holy. I started agreeing with You that what I was doing was wrong. I held my situation up to You and You reacted totally different than I expected. Rather than being mad at me and rejecting me on the basis of all my sins. You forgave me! I couldn't even do that. I hated who I had become. I loathed my life style. But You forgave me and worked a wonderful miracle in my heart. All of a sudden I felt the pain of all my guilt go away. I didn't have to forgive myself. Your forgiveness was enough. Your healing set my heart free from all the pain of all the guilt I was feeling. My sin was gone. My guilt was gone. And, You became my Savior.

Psa 32:6 (NIV) Therefore let everyone who is godly pray to you while you may be found; surely when the mighty waters rise, they will not reach him. Now I am in a position to help others. You have done such a wonderful work in my life. I want to tell everyone how wonderful and beautiful You are. I want to have a godly attitude. I want to react to others in the same forgiving manner You did for me. Let me be an extension of Your grace and mercy. Let me work for You while there is still time to do ministry here on this earth. I know there is coming a time when no one is going to be able to do such ministry. I know great tribulation is coming on all the earth. But, nothing is going to be able to undo all that You have done for us. Nothing is going to stop Who You are and what You are doing. You are the great God Who is mightier than everything that is yet to come.

Psa 32:7 (NIV) You are my hiding place; you will protect me from trouble and surround me with songs of deliverance. **Selah.** You have prepared a place for me. I will be able to hide inside of You. When great trouble and judgment come on all the earth, You will hide me in that place of protection. Your people will be caught up in that great deliverance. We will join in singing the songs of great deliverance. My voice will join them in singing great praises to You for all You have done. I will sing with the great masses of people. My heart will resound with great worship and praise. In all of my hopes and dreams I never imagined that anything could possibly happen to me as wonderful as You. You are worthy all my praise and worship forever and ever.

Psa 32:8 (NIV) I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you and watch over you. You are providing me with wonderful instruction. Your Holy Spirit is taking all the things that Jesus said and is showing them to me. The ways of Jesus are becoming my path. The Holy Spirit is counseling me with wisdom that is greater than Solomon's. You are watching over me and making sure I know everything I need to know. Your Truth is setting me free from the damage that sin did to me. You, God, are my instructor and counselor. Not only did You give me this new life; but, You have given me all the instructions for how to live it. The power that is coming through Your Word is enabling me to do all You are teaching me to do.

Psa 32:9 (NIV) Do not be like the horse or the mule, which have no understanding but must be controlled by bit and bridle or they will not come to you. Set me free from having to be like a trained animal. Let me be a part of all You are doing through me. I want to be able to understand the things You are accomplishing in and through me. Let me cooperate with You while understanding the full relationship. Do Your ministry in and through me while making me a part of it all. I want to be so yielded to You that You can include me in on the information as well. Give me wisdom, understanding and knowledge so I can comprehend the greatness of Your ministry through me. Make me Your friend so You can include me in on Your plans.

Psa 32:10 (NIV) Many are the woes of the wicked, but the Lord's unfailing love surrounds the man who trusts in him. My life was horrible without You. I suffered great pain and loneliness day and night. I know how great are the woes of the wicked. Their life is filled with constant emptiness and desperation. I can still remember how lost and confused I use to be. Those memories are inspiring great appreciation for Your unfailing love. Thank You for helping me to put my complete trust in You. Thank You for providing and submerging me in Your great salvation. I can feel Your love rapping around me and giving me wonderful comfort. I feel so safe in the arms of Your eternal love. I praise You and worship You for the new life You have given me.

Psa 32:11 (NIV) Rejoice in the LORD and be glad, you righteous; sing, all you who are upright in heart! Help me to inspire praise and worship in all the people You have made righteous. Let me bring them into singing with all their heart. Help me to sing to You with a whole new song. Let my gladness be able to express itself before You all the day long. Let Your Name be on my lips continuously. Let my life be a song before Your throne. Let me live in front of all people as a praise and a worship of all You have done for me. Be glorified by all the people of this earth. Let me lead them all to Your salvation. Let their hearts be so changed that they can see You as I do. I want all to come before You and give You great glory and gladness. You are worthy of all praise.

PSALM 33

God, Your creation is awesome.

Psa 33:1 (NIV) Sing joyfully to the LORD, you righteous; it is fitting for the upright to praise him. God, I have so much to praise You for. You have made my life so much better. The way of the transgressor really is hard. Even when things seem to be going bad, I know You are working them together for good. When I am going through some negative situation, I have You to call on and tell all about it. You work miracles in my life and comfort me during the whole process. None of these things were available before You became the Lord of my life. It is the right thing to always praise You. You are worthy of all praise and appreciation. I love singing praise songs to You. Even when I can't seem to come up with the special words I would like to say, I can go to a song and find just the right words to express my heart.

Psa 33:2 (NIV) Praise the LORD with the harp; make music to him on the ten-stringed lyre. It is great listening to Christian music. Just knowing that all of it is expressing great praise to Your Name. Music written to You is an expression of how I and Your people feel about Your greatness. We play these instruments so as to make beautiful music to be sent to Your ears. Let the harmonious sound of their notes come before You as a love expression from our hearts. We love You and want to use everything to let You know it. Give me a song in my heart that become a sweet savor to You. Sometimes words fail me. So, I use musical instruments to help me say with sounds what I can't put into words.

Psa 33:3 (NIV) Sing to him a new song; play skillfully, and shout for joy. I love singing new songs of praise to You. I want to broaden my list of songs that I can sing. I want to use every lyric and every note to approach all subjects of my love. Let my abilities grow. Help me sing and play as many songs as possible. Build a great repertoire of songs in my heart and in my mouth. Give me new songs that better express how much I love and praise Your holy name. I even want to express my love with shouts. I yield to the joy You have given me. With loud shouts I express the intensity of my feelings for You.

Psa 33:4 (NIV) For the word of the LORD is right and true; he is faithful in all he does. I would be like a lost person with no map. Without your Word, I would be lost without any directions to where You are. If I didn't have Your Word, I wouldn't know which way was the right way. I would be so confused and misdirected. Your Word lights up my path and reveals how to get to the right destiny. Your Word is correct and true. I don't have to worry that I might be being mislead. It always points me in the correct direction. It is so wonderful because it all comes from You. You gave birth to all this truth. Your faithfulness is shown in every sentence. Everything You do is done in faithfulness. Not one of Your words have ever failed. They have and are all coming true. I can always count on them.

Psa 33:5 (NIV) The LORD loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of his unfailing love. I am so glad that You love and require righteousness and justice. I thank You for being righteous and just. You have set the rules for life. You are in control of how this world is being run. You are going to have the final say in it all. Nothing is going to escape from Your requirements of righteousness and justice. I thank You that You have credited me with righteousness and have put justice in my heart. You are the One Who has aligned me with Your will. Because of Your unfailing love, I have been made a part of Your righteousness. You have put the righteousness of Jesus in me. Without Your love, I would be found as an enemy of all Your requirements. I would have been a part of Your wrath as You brought about justice. But, through salvation, I am a part of Your unfailing love.

Psa 33:6 (NIV) By the word of the LORD were the heavens made, their starry host by the breath of his mouth. To love and be loved by the Creator of the universe is such an awesome thing. I can't imagine how You can care about someone as insignificant as me. Yet You care enough to come and die for me and the sins I have committed. How can You be so big and dynamic and still notice me? My mind can't understand all of this. You are so much better than anything I can envision. All the false god's man has dreamed up are always causing problems in men's lives. We would all assume that You would be putting major demands on us. Instead, You have made all the sacrifices. You are nothing like what we would imagine. What a great God You are!

Psa 33:7 (NIV) He gathers the waters of the sea into jars ; he puts the deep into storehouses. You have made it clear to me that nothing is impossible for You. I have seen Your power. I have seen the beauty of Your creation. I see how well organized it all is. The closer I look at the way You designed the oceans, the more I understand Your complete attention to every detail. Everything You have done is beautiful. I walk on the beach and observe Your beauty and greatness. It is majestic and awe inspiring to behold. It shouts out how wonderful You are. It give great praise to all You stand for. Thank You for letting me see You in its greatness. Thank You for all of its color and activity. Thank You for making it so big. It describes the vastness of all You are.

Psa 33:8 (NIV) Let all the earth fear the LORD; let all the people of the world revere him. I want to have reverential respect for all You are. I want my heart to dread doing anything displeasing to You. I want to hate anything that would separate me from this wonderful relationship I have with You. Let my fear for You influence all my decisions. I can sometimes allow a fear of other's opinions and social pressure push me into wrong things. I want to so fear You that any other fears I might have would not be yielded to. I revere You. My adoration for You is deep and intense. I love You with all that I am. Your Holy Spirit has opened my heart and life to a whole new love relationship. You are worthy of all reverence and fear.

Psa 33:9 (NIV) For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm. Your ability to speak and cause things to come into existence shapes my attitudes. As I look at how easy it is for You to create a universe, my faith soars. The more I see all You have created with Your words, the more I am convinced that nothing is impossible for You. I compare my personal problems and situations with Your creation. I immediately know that I don't need to worry about a thing. You made all this great creation just so I could have a place to live. Even though it is big and I am small, I see that nothing escapes Your heart and concern. You do big things for small people. You create huge things for minute beings like me. You are great and yet You see all the finest of details. You are great and yet You are attuned to my smallest thought.

Psa 33:10 (NIV) The LORD foils the plans of the nations; he thwarts the purposes of the peoples. Everything is too big for me. I lack the ability to run my own life. The slightest problems that come my way are overwhelming. I run around trying to take care of them and often make them worse. You, on the other hand, are running the universe. You have explained to me that You want me to put my trust in You. You have offered all of Your wisdom, power, and love. The nations are all under Your leadership. World and national decisions yield to Your plans. You control all the purposes of the masses. You have demonstrated that nothing escapes Your attention or power. With all this greatness I can see how foolish it is to not put my trust in You.

Psa 33:11 (NIV) But the plans of the LORD stand firm forever, the purposes of his heart through all generations. I want to put my trust in Your plans. Let me relax in the purposes of Your heart. Everything Your Word has predicted has come to pass. Every detail is being fulfilled. As I look at Your prophecies, I learn that nothing has slipped through Your control. World conditions, weather, earthquakes, wars, Israel, spiritual condition, everything that is currently going on has been fully described in the Bible. None of it has, is, or will happen without fulfilling Your plans and purposes. All of these things bring my heart into faith. They all prove that You do everything You say You will do. I rejoice in the fact that You are running it all. Even those things that look like chaos are Your plans being fulfilled. Your Holy Spirit is using Your prophecies and Your Word to bring peace to my heart. I believe in You. You are in control.

Psa 33:12 (NIV) Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD, the people he chose for his inheritance. Lord, bring my nation to You. Use me to take Your Truth to them. I pray and bring my nation before You. Let them make You their God. Be the Lord of their lives. Jesus, You purchased every one of them with Your blood. Choose them for Your inheritance. Let their mouths praise and glorify Your Name. Bring their hearts into complete love for You. Set them free from the bondages of sin and death. Help them see how great and wonderful You are. Give every Christian Your gospel message. Send them forth to proclaim the freedom that is available to the lost. Deliver us from any fear or hesitation. Make us bold; anoint us supernaturally with Your power to do Your work. Give us the ministry of Jesus. We yield to Your full control.

Psa 33:13 (NIV) From heaven the LORD looks down and sees all mankind;

I know mankind isn't living like they should. But, Your gospel has the power to turn everything around. Pour out Your Holy Spirit on all flesh. Let Your Holy Spirit cover this planet like the waters cover the ocean. Send a great moving of Your Spirit in all of our hearts. This world needs You. I know You are grieved with a lot of what You see. I know we don't deserve Your grace and mercy. But, we desperately need You. We will never be able to do better without You. Your Holy Spirit can turn all this around. He can change the hearts of mankind. You can anoint me and all who serve You. You can so empower us that we will present Your Truth to every person. I believe in You and Your greatness. Nothing is impossible for You. I know You can come up with a plan that will change everything You currently see. You can transform all mankind for Your glory.

Psa 33:14 (NIV) from his dwelling place he watches all who live on earth-- Help me be a channel through which You flow into this world situation. My body belongs to You. Let the mighty ministry of Jesus flow out to these people who live on earth. You paid a great sacrifice for salvation. You conquered the devil, sin, death, and mankind's conditions. Let You heavenly ministry move mightily through me and all who will yield to You. These people need Your great salvation. You are able to work a worldwide miracle in the hearts of mankind. I know You see a way for all this to be done. With Your greatness and wisdom, You can take our lives and empower us to fulfill the great commission. We can't do it; but, You in us can. I ask You to help every Christian to volunteer to be mightily used by You.

Psa 33:15 (NIV) he who forms the hearts of all, who considers everything they do.

Our hearts are in Your hands, mighty God. All our weaknesses are material for Your strength. Your Holy Spirit has helped me to consider everything I do. I submit the deeds of my life to You. Form me into a vessel for the complete ministry of Jesus. I don't want to resist Him in any way. Let Him have His complete way in my life and ministry. Form my heart in such a way that it is completely submitted to Jesus and all He wants to do. Here is my heart God. I believe in Your love, grace, mercy, and power to do this work in my heart. I know that You want to use me to do Your mighty work in the needs of this world. I know there are multitudes of others who will submit their hearts to You. Form us all into complete submission to all Jesus wants to do in this world.

Psa 33:16 (NIV) No king is saved by the size of his army; no warrior escapes by his great strength. Heavenly Father, I have looked to organizational structure. I have tried to do Your work and ministry through mathematics and strategies that looked good to me. I had a plan that I tried to implement and then asked You to bless and use it. I was going to develop a great army of workers. I was going to do a great work for You. However, none of my plans and strategies were under Your control. It was all my design and training. You are the answer to the needs of this world. You have a plan and a design. You have all the wisdom, understanding, and knowledge. You have the character and compassion needed for Your work. Once You are yielded to, nothing is powerful enough to stand in Your way. This world is going to be reached by those who put their complete trust in You.

Psa 33:17 (NIV) **A horse is a vain hope for deliverance; despite all its great strength it cannot save.** I lay my techniques, my plans, my skills, my organizations, and my life at Your feet. Like those who put their trust in horses and chariots fail, so will I if I put my trust in any of these things. Nothing is going to take Your place. I look to You for all I need. You are going to work great supernatural miracles in and through me. You are going to do the same for all who give up everything for You. Even though it looks like we can come up with great and powerful plans, they will fail. Your Word constantly shows me that You aren't going to bless anything except the mighty, God-sized things You do.

Psa 33:18 (NIV) **But the eyes of the LORD are on those who fear him, on those whose hope is in his unfailing love,** My trust is in You and all You have to offer. Once I have You controlling all that I am, I know it is all accomplished. Once the right kind of fear is in You, I don't have to worry about anything else. All my hopes and dreams are fulfilled in You. I know You love me and have called me to do Your ministry. I know You love me and every person on this earth. I lay all that I am into that love. It is enough for me. Your love is going to do this great commission. All who will call on Your Name will be saved. Your love is much more powerful and unfailing than mine. I give my heart over to Your love. I love with the love from You. Your love will accomplish everything You want me to be and do.

Psa 33:19 (NIV) **to deliver them from death and keep them alive in famine.** Your love will protect me as I go forth in Your Name. Neither death or famine will be able to stop me from doing all You have called me to do. Your love will deliver all who will call on You. You will show them a way of life that will be far better than anything they can provide for themselves. All who call on You will be thrilled with Your great provisions. They are going to be glad they put their trust in You. You are the answer to all our needs. I look to You for everything. I have seen all Your creation. I have seen You run this world. You have never gone back on anything You have said. You have always done far beyond anything I could think of or ask for.

Psa 33:20 (NIV) **We wait in hope for the LORD; he is our help and our shield.** I wait on You God. I give up rushing out to do something for You. I want to have You working through me. I wait for You to indicate that You are ready to move forward. All my hope is in You. I can now see that nothing is possible through me. Even though I serve You, I still can't survive a moment without You. I would have never measured up to the task. I have to always have Your help and Your protection. I will die a premature death without You always being there. Nothing works without You making it work. All possibilities are only in You. You can be all I need to be. Your life is being lived in and through me. Your ministry is flowing out to do what only You can do. People don't need me. They need You. I want them to only get You.

Psa 33:21 (NIV) In him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in his holy name. You have made my life wonderful. You have put the song and rejoicing in my heart. You alone have made the difference in me. All my trust in other things has failed me miserably. My life was filled with great disappointment. Nothing good came to me. It wasn't until I put my trust in Your holy Name, that everything changed. It has been proven to me over and over again that You are the only answer to all of my and other's needs. Let all mankind know this truth. Help them to give up their struggling to make other things work. Show them that You are the only answer. Make them receptive to Your gospel message. Draw them to Jesus. Show them the meaning of the gospel message. Reveal Your great truths to them so they can find You.

Psa 33:22 (NIV) May your unfailing love rest upon us, O LORD, even as we put our hope in you. Let Your great family grow, O God. Your love is unfailing. May it be a part of all who hear Your message of good news. Raise up hope in all of us. Help me to supply the truths they need. I want to do my part to spread Your unfailing love into the hearts and lives of the people of this world. They must experience what I have experienced. They must have the eternal provisions I have. They must know You like I know You. I don't want any to miss out on all of the great provisions for my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. May Your unfailing love rest on us all, O Lord. Help us all to put our complete trust and hope in You.

PSALM 34

God, I want to give **glory** to Your Name.

Psa 34:1 (NIV) Of David. When he pretended to be insane before Abimelech, who drove him away, and he left. I will extol the LORD at all times; his praise will always be on my lips. There are times, Lord, when I don't feel like being happy. I don't want to say anything positive. Everything seems bad. Sometimes I can only think and see negative things. I want to feel sorry for myself. And, I don't want anyone trying to cheer me up. Then I remember my commitment. I have resolved to extol You at all times. I want Your praise to be always on my lips. So, I bring my attitudes before You. I want to praise and worship You no matter what is going on in my life. Help me to always have a close and loving relationship with You. You are always worthy of my praise.

Psa 34:2 (NIV) My soul will boast in the LORD; let the afflicted hear and rejoice.

I boast in Your greatness. Nothing is happening to me that You will not work together for good. There is never a reason for me to start feeling picked on. You are taking care of all my needs. Help me to stop looking at my circumstances. Help me to realize that my circumstance are never too difficult for You. I may be in a situation where I am being afflicted with all kinds of situations. But, I can still boast in You. Bad circumstances don't mean defeat for me. They are no evidence that I am in trouble. They don't prove anything. I can still know that You will always come through. Let me be able to hear and rejoice in You.

Psa 34:3 (NIV) Glorify the LORD with me; let us exalt his name together. Rather than me depressing and discouraging everyone with my bad attitudes, help me to draw them into praise. Help me to bring glory to Your Name even when typically my situation would push me in the opposite direction. Help me to not only start praising and glorifying You myself; but, to help others to join me. I want to be a godly influence on people even during times when I don't feel like being a good influence. Help me to always be one who brings people into exalting Your name together with me. I know that I will start feeling praise if I will just get started. You always change my attitudes and get my eyes off of my circumstances. Just as soon as I really start looking at You, I always start feeling praise for Who You are.

Psa 34:4 (NIV) I sought the LORD, and he answered me; he delivered me from all my fears. During times when I am doing more thinking than seeking, I usually fail to see any hope for my situation. Help me to do less thinking and more seeking You. Somehow I seem to feel that I need to see a way to solve my problems myself. I keep analyzing the situation and trying to find some way I can solve it. Once I come to the conclusion that there is no way I am going to be able to do that, I start to panic. Help me to look at every situation with You. Help me to bring You into every moment of my life automatically. If I seek You, You will deliver me from all my fears. You are always waiting for me to invite You into each area of my life. Every time I seek You, You always come through. You have never let me down or failed me. Help me to see that and seek You immediately.

Psa 34:5 (NIV) Those who look to him are radiant; their faces are never covered with shame. I want my face to change from being stressed out to radiance. I want the people around me to be drawn into You. I want my face to bring glory and praise in the hearts of those around me. Let them see You and Your influence being exhibited through my facial expressions. Some times my expressions give the impression that You are letting me down. I don't want to send out that message to others. You have never put me to shame. I am sorry that I didn't come to You first. I am sorry that I tried to solve my problems without You. That soured my attitudes and created bad impressions on my face. Help me to always look to You. I know that is going to change my attitudes and my face is going to show forth complete confidence in You.

Psa 34:6 (NIV) This poor man called, and the LORD heard him; he saved him out of all his troubles. Even in times when I don't feel like it, help me to call on You. If I will, You will hear me and save me out of my troubles. I need to be able to break through these bad attitudes and call on You. Help me to be able to call so You can hear me and save me out of these pressing troubles. The troubles seem to cause me to not feel like calling. Yet, calling gets me out of my troubles. Please deliver me from this cycle of failure.

Psa 34:7 (NIV) The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him, and he delivers them. Help me to realize that You are completely protecting me from all of these imagined calamities I have in my mind. I look at the circumstances and let them become too big for me. I compare them with me and my abilities. I fail to compare them with all Your provisions. You and all Your angels are much bigger than anything that can come my way.

Rather than having a fear that draws my attention to the circumstances of my life, I want the fear that draws me into respect for You. Help me to so fear You that I refuse to do anything that is disappointing to You. Help me to fear You more than I fear things that would pull me away from You. I accept this godly fear that motivates me to yield to You and receive Your deliverance.

Psa 34:8 (NIV) Taste and see that the LORD is good; blessed is the man who takes refuge in him. Sometimes I just need to take small steps in Your direction. Because of all my bad attitudes and frustrations, I can't totally head back into the right direction. Let me just start tasting all You have to offer. Provide me samples of Your greatness so as to draw me back into a proper attitude toward You. I desperately need You. I can't afford to be in a place where I can't get all You have to offer. Please let me start seeing what my life would be like if I had Your provisions. Things can distract me. I can get overwhelmed by the things I see. My mind is too limited to resist the evidences around me. Keep Your greatness before my eyes all the time. God, I taste You and Your provisions. I see that You are good. I am blessed because I run into You and hide. Keep me looking to You for all my needs.

Psa 34:9 (NIV) Fear the LORD, you his saints, for those who fear him lack nothing. I fear a lot of things, God. I fear pain, death, lack, and spiritual dryness. Many times those fears take the place of my fear of You. The fears I have from the issues of this life bring me nothing but pain, failure, and disappointment. A fear of You causes me to lack nothing. I should be an easy decision. I should be motivated by a fear of You. I should care more about how You feel than for how others will feel. I want this fear that trumps all these other fears and concerns. Let me so fear doing anything that You don't like, that I don't care if it disappoints others. I want Your opinions and attitudes to be my priority. I want what You think to be much more important than what others think.

Psa 34:10 (NIV) The lions may grow weak and hungry, but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing. The power of the lion isn't enough to make sure that they eat. The power of all people put together lack the ability to supply all our needs. We will all grow weak and hungry if we don't learn that You are the only power that meets all needs. If I get depressed and discouraged, I am only going to be delivered through Your power and provisions. As I look around me, I see people trying to take care of all their needs and situations. They are having to spend all their time and energy just to survive. They fill their lives with things they think will satisfy. Yet they continue all the days of their lives trying to find happiness. Only the things You provide will satisfy. Even if I could supply my needs and solve my problems, I would still not be happy. All the good things come from You.

Psa 34:11 (NIV) Come, my children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD. Teach me Your fear, God. Give me wisdom, understanding, and knowledge concerning all of its makeup. Let me grow in it until it fills my life with total faith and trust in You. Let it be such a strong motivation that I never stray from serving and living in dependency in You. Teach me how to make it a part of every fiber of my being. Expand it into framework of my heart. Mix it into all that I say and do. Let it dominate the decisions of my life and ministry. Make it clear to me so I will love being motivated by it. Help me to embrace it so I never resist its influence on my relationship with You. Help me to see all of its benefits. Let my desires seek it with everything I am.

Psa 34:12 (NIV) Whoever of you loves life and desires to see many good days, Make my days on this earth one of complete satisfaction to You. Let me so live my life that You are completely pleased with everything I say and do. Give me many good days filled with Your total influence. Let my life be under Your control. I want You to do everything You determine to do through me. I don't want anything in my life that resists the slightest desire You have. I lay my life and ministry at Your feet. I want You more than anything else. You are my goal and my endeavor. To have You and all You have to offer will make all my days a complete satisfaction to me. I want to spend all of eternity with You. I want this life to so count for Your glory that it will make my eternity be in a perfect place with You.

Psa 34:13 (NIV) keep your tongue from evil and your lips from speaking lies. Take control of my mouth. Rule over my tongue in complete success. Let the words of my mouth be totally pleasing to You. I believe in You and all You have to offer. I believe that Your Holy Spirit is able to bring everything I say into submission to You. I know that I am completely inadequate to keep my tongue from evil. I know that I would continuously speak lies. But, Your strength is made perfect in my weakness. You are more than enough to transform all of my words. Let my weak words become Your words of creative power. Let the lives of the people hear what You have to say. Let them be saved, transformed, and healed by the words that You speak through me.

Psa 34:14 (NIV) Turn from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it. It is my desire to turn from evil and do good. I know that, that is not possible in me. I seek You, my Prince of Peace. I make You the pursuit of my life. All the good days that You give me I devote to seeking and pursuing You. Give me great power and ability to seek You. Supply me with all that I need to obtain You. Anoint me with the greatness of Your Holy Spirit. Let that anointing give me the way to get You for now and all eternity. There is nothing I want more. You are my everything. Nothing can compare to all You are. You are my God and my goal for all of eternity. You are the prize that I seek. You are the life eternal that I pursue.

Psa 34:15 (NIV) The eyes of the LORD are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their cry; Hear my cry, O God. See the desires of my heart. There is nothing that my body craves that is what I want. My body and its weaknesses do not represent the cry of my spirit. Be attentive to the real passion of my heart. See beyond all of the shortcomings of my flesh. Give me victory over all that tries to trip me up. Let Your ears hear beyond all the circumstances and worldly influences that try to lure me away from You. The inconsistencies that sometimes show up in my life don't represent what I want. Let my life be transformed into the true desires of my heart. Let Your Holy Spirit provide me with all that I need to succeed over my body, the world, and the devil. Let me serve You with all that is within me and all that I have.

Psa 34:16 (NIV) the face of the LORD is against those who do evil, to cut off the memory of them from the earth. Move into all of my circumstances. Resist all that tries to distract me. Create a straight and level path before me. Make it possible for me to serve You and obey You in everyway. Let Your greatness be presented in and through me to all mankind. I want everyone to see how great and wonderful You are. I believe in Your power and abilities to change the lives of all You touch through me. I believe in the might of Your Holy Spirit to work through me to do all that You have called me to do. Be strong and mighty in and through me to the needy. Don't let me fail them in any way. They desperately need all You have to offer. I must be all that I need to be. You will accomplish it, mighty God. I believe in You.

Psa 34:17 (NIV) The righteous cry out, and the LORD hears them; he delivers them from all their troubles. I don't want troubles or any other thing to distract me from what You have called me to do. I have been made the righteousness of Christ Jesus. I want that great provision to flow through me to all who will receive Him and all He has to offer. I am crying out to You. I know You have heard me. I know You are delivering me from all that resists Your Truth. You will move mightily in and through me to all who will listen to what You have to say. I believe in Your love and Your greatness. I know You won't withhold any good thing from Your people. Use every Christian in the same way. Don't let a one of them fall behind in all the great things You have to offer.

Psa 34:18 (NIV) The LORD is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit. I allowed all my disappointments to breach my relationship with You. My attention was focused on all my problems and needs. I started really feeling sorry for myself. The more I did this, the more depressed I got. With my attention on me, I couldn't see You and all You had to offer. All I could see was the impossibilities and difficulties of the problems I had. You were right there. You were more than willing to step in and help me. All I had to do was get my eyes back on You. You not only care about my broken heartedness, You are loving and powerful enough to do what I need. You immediately came and healed my crushed spirit. You were just waiting for me to call on You for help.

Psa 34:19 (NIV) **A righteous man may have many troubles, but the LORD delivers him from them all;** Sometimes I feel like I shouldn't have troubles. I get to thinking that Christians should be free from all troubles. But, that isn't what You have set up. You have explained in Your Word that we will have troubles in this life. Deliver me from being shaken when I have problems. Help me to not be confused when difficulties come my way. All of this is normal for this world. Put a good attitude in my heart. Let me maintain my faith and trust in You. I want to believe in Your control over my life regardless on the experiences I have. I may have many troubles, but You will deliver me from them all. That is what I want to be thinking about. You are going to take every situation and make it work out for good according to Your plan. That is good enough for me.

Psa 34:20 (NIV) **he protects all his bones, not one of them will be broken.** After all the dust clears, I always come out on top. You have never failed me in any situation. There is no reason for me to start doubting You now. At times when all seems lost, I can look back on all the victories You have given me. As I look at them one by one I can see that You have never let me down. I have been victorious in the face of every issue I have had to deal with. I remember all of Your times of faithfulness. My heart gets filled with great joy as I go over all Your miracles You have worked for me. My faith soars as I recall each detail of each situation. First I remember how impossible it seemed at the time. Then I remember how great a victory You gave me when the answer came. You have held me together and made me a winner in spite of all that I have gone through.

Psa 34:21 (NIV) **Evil will slay the wicked; the foes of the righteous will be condemned.** Not only do I win over my enemies. You keep them from being able to regroup and come after me again. The evil they embrace will be their destruction. The motivations that drove them to seek my harm will be their undoing. Their character will keep them from being blessed in their efforts. You will make it all turn out right and just. They can't win against me. All their confidence and bragging won't be able to come to pass. You have made me Your righteousness in Christ Jesus. Therefore, my foes will be condemned.

Psa 34:22 (NIV) **The LORD redeems his servants; no one will be condemned who takes refuge in him.** There is no condemnation against me. Jesus' righteousness has exempt me from it all. I have hidden my life in Him. He is my place of refuge. I serve Him with all I am and will ever be. My trust isn't in me or my accomplishments. I believe in the grace You have provided me through Christ. I have Your full redemption. All my sins have been washed away. My life is filled with Your continual blessing. Nothing that comes against me can succeed. All evil that tries to overtake me must first pass through You. I am in You and they can't get to me because nothing is big enough to defeat You.

PSALM 35

God, my **friends** have turned against me.

Psa 35:1 (NIV) Of David. Contend, O LORD, with those who contend with me; fight against those who fight against me. Lord, they have accused me of doing things that aren't true. They have tried to ruin my reputation and destroy my relationships. They go around talking against me to everyone they think will be my friend. They try to make it look like I am the one who is doing all the lying. The things they accuse me of are actually things they have done and are doing. Put a stop to their lies. Reveal the truth about me to all my friends. My friends have turned their backs on me. They have believed all these lies that my enemies have spread around. Fight against them and put them to shame.

Psa 35:2 (NIV) Take up shield and buckler; arise and come to my aid. Let the full armor You have surrounded me with come to my aid. Protect me from the fiery arrows of the devil. Cause the shield of faith You have given me be empowered to quench them. Satan is a liar and so are his people. He has filled their mouths with his lies and they have yielded to his wishes. Use this full armor You have given me to put a stop to all they are trying to accomplish. Help me take up the sword of the Spirit and bring Your powerful Word into action. Let us work together to put a stop to all they have planned for me.

Psa 35:3 (NIV) Brandish spear and javelin against those who pursue me. Say to my soul, "I am your salvation." Give me Your power and Your spiritual weapons to bring them down. You are in me and all Your ministry is in me. Send forth Your weapons that are powerful to the tearing down of satanic strongholds. Use me to be strong in You and in Your mighty power. You are my salvation and I will never lose a battle because of You. You have provided me with all that I need to defeat the efforts of Satan and his people. Provide the assurance of all Your salvation stands for. Help my heart accept the Truth about all its provisions. As long as I have that assurance and Truth, I can go forth with You and defeat everything they bring against me.

Psa 35:4 (NIV) May those who seek my life be disgraced and put to shame; may those who plot my ruin be turned back in dismay. They had hoped that all their gossip and lies would destroy me and the ministry You gave me. They thought that they could bring an end to all You had called me to do. They rejoiced as they saw me suffer. They winked at each other as they brought all their accusations against me. They were convinced that they had brought an end to me and all I stood for. Instead, O God, bring disgrace on them. Thwart their goals and plans. Let me stand before You in Your righteousness. Give me victory so they can see that You have not rejected me. Let me sing forth all Your praises. Make me an example of all Your grace and mercy. Cause them to all be turned back in dismay. Not because of my goodness. But, because of Jesus' provisions; let me live and do Your work in a mighty way.

Psa 35:5 (NIV) May they be like chaff before the wind, with the angel of the LORD driving them away; As they came against me, they looked like a mighty army. Their weapons seemed to be too great for me to survive. Their power seemed to be unlimited. My heart and life was crushed before their hand. No matter which way I turned they pursued me. There was no way of escape for me to find. Nothing I did seemed to be powerful enough to stop them. They were too big for me to handle. But, You stepped in and revealed Your greatness. I say my situation in comparison to You. They became small and insignificant before You. My heart gained courage when I saw how powerful You really are. Now I know that You are more than enough to handle them. May they be like chaff before the wind. Send Your angel to drive them away. Give me the plans You have always had for me. Fulfill Your will in all that I think and do.

Psa 35:6 (NIV) may their path be dark and slippery, with the angel of the LORD pursuing them. When my enemies came after me, they seemed to have a wide road to travel to get to me. All their plans were clear to them. They successfully carried them out without confusion. They could see their target and hit me as if they had the noonday sun to light their way. Nothing seemed to stand in their way as they attacked. One victory after another became their standard way of life. But as I call on Your name, things are changing. You are my protection and vindication. Bring great darkness to their efforts. Take away their ability to find me. Surround them with darkness and insecurity. Let their footing be too slippery for them to be able to advance. Send Your angel against them. Pursue them and keep them busy fleeing from You.

Psa 35:7 (NIV) Since they hid their net for me without cause and without cause dug a pit for me, I had my own sins and shortcomings. I did not live my life with perfection or total righteousness. You have revealed many areas of need. I have had to repent and respond to many of Your corrections. You have had to work on a lot of areas in my life. But, You did not need any of their hatred. You didn't send them to break me and beat me down. Their net wasn't for bringing about my spiritual growth. They dug a pit for the sole purpose of destroying me. They weren't motivated by Your grace and mercy. Their net and their pit came from hatred and destruction. They came against me without a godly cause.

Psa 35:8 (NIV) may ruin overtake them by surprise-- may the net they hid entangle them, may they fall into the pit, to their ruin. Since they came against me without grace and mercy, let them experience the ruin that they planned for me. Shock them with a revelation of Your Truth. Show them where their heart really was. Cause them to see the folly of the net they prepared for me. Give them a personal view of the pit they dug for me. If it is possible, let them experience the net and pit they prepared for me. If it can be done, let this experience change their heart to repentance. Let them turn to You and learn Your grace and mercy. Teach them the Truth of Your love and great salvation provisions. Give them a whole new way to live their life. Show them that Your ways are much better than their ways. Forgive them and heal them like You have done for me.

Psa 35:9 (NIV) Then my soul will rejoice in the LORD and delight in his salvation.

I will praise You for Your great work. You can turn my enemies into brothers and sisters. You can change hate into love and forgiveness. You can take destruction and turn it into eternal life. I praise You for Your greatness. Your salvation can transform the most foul of all sinners. You can put a whole new heart in us and make us into Your children. You can turn mortals into glorified beings who will spend eternity with You. You have a power that is used for making all things new. You use Your authority and positions to save people from their all their wrong doings. You are the answer to all the earth's problems and woes.

Psa 35:10 (NIV) My whole being will exclaim, "Who is like you, O LORD? You rescue the poor from those too strong for them, the poor and needy from those who rob them."

Who is like You? Who represents Truth and holiness but You? No where have I found anything like Your Word. You insist on character that no one else will require. You bring about justice under the leadership of grace and mercy. You love and yet judge with perfect balance. You forgive and yet punish by using perfect wisdom, understanding, and knowledge. You deliver and yet hold captive through Your perfect holiness and power. The strong are allowed to live in freedom. Yet the poor are protected and blessed through Your people. The strong try to destroy the poor. Yet You raise the poor up to live with You in eternal riches. When all stand before You in judgment, all will see how fair and loving You have been. No one will examine Your methods and find fault with them. Everyone will examine them and then bow their knees before You and proclaim You completely guiltless of all You have done. All will admit You have been perfect in all Your ways.

Psa 35:11 (NIV) Ruthless witnesses come forward; they question me on things I know nothing about. Lord, People don't have to have a reason to attack. They are willing to make things up. They go around creating trouble and gossiping about things that don't exist. They seem to enjoy running people down. Spending their days coming up with new lies seems to be their favorite pastime. I am giving my life over to You. My whole desire is to live a righteous and godly life. When these accusations come against me, I examine my life and hold it up to You to see if there is any truth in it. It tears away at my heart and grieves my spirit as I try to make some sense of all that they are saying. I look for a basis for why they are coming up with such accusations. I can't find a shred of truth in any of it. It appears to all be unfounded.

Psa 35:12 (NIV) They repay me evil for good and leave my soul forlorn. Sometimes I try to make peace with them. I work with them trying to prove that I am innocent. I even try to make friends with them so they will know that I am not like they are saying. I do good things to them and act like they haven't said all the evil things they have said. I treat them with respect and kindness and all they repay me with is more lies. It seems like there is nothing I can do to change their mind. No matter what I say they use it against me to further prove that I am evil. They go around trying to get new colleagues to join in their cause. It appears to be a campaign dedicated to destroying my reputation. They hate me without a cause and they attack me without a reason.

Psa 35:13 (NIV) Yet when they were ill, I put on sackcloth and humbled myself with fasting. When my prayers returned to me unanswered, They were my friends in my heart. They came to me with major problems and needs. I bound up their wounds and took care of their emotional hurts. I watched over them like it was my own life. When they faced something that I couldn't seem to get an answer for, I went back to You to see if there was something in my life that was keeping them from getting healed. When they suffered, I suffered with them. I stayed late at night and got up early in the morning to care for them when they called. I poured my life into them because they were suffering and needed Your miracles in their lives.

Psa 35:14 (NIV) I went about mourning as though for my friend or brother. I bowed my head in grief as though weeping for my mother. My heart was stressed and my soul was in mourning when they made bad decisions. I worried about them when I didn't know where they were. I felt their pain and cried when they cried. I treated them like my own family. It was like my brother or mother was going through the difficulties they suffered. I poured all my heart into our relationship. I didn't withhold anything from my emotions and concern. I desired Your blessings, healing, and salvation on them as if they belonged to my family. Day and night I cried out to You for some special touch on their life.

Psa 35:15 (NIV) But when I stumbled, they gathered in glee; attackers gathered against me when I was unaware. They slandered me without ceasing. But when I ran into trouble, they were immediately against me. They rejected me and were glad to see me fall. Not only did they not come to my rescue, they joined in as attackers and helped me be destroyed. They didn't remember any of the times I held their hand and prayed for their deliverance. Instead, they started slandered me and doing damage to my name. They contacted as many people as they could to spread the news of my calamity. More and more they developed new stories and produced more evidence for my destruction.

Psa 35:16 (NIV) Like the ungodly they maliciously mocked ; they gnashed their teeth at me. It was as if they had never become Christians. Their whole attitude was filled with fleshly desires of hate and disdain. They didn't pray for me or hold my hand as I went through my problems. There was no love in their heart when they looked at me. It became obvious that they only cared about themselves. If I was no longer a source of comfort, then I was no longer useful to them. So they mocked me and gnashed their teeth at me. Their true character showed up. We weren't really friends. I was their tool to get their needs met. There was no real Christian fellowship or unity in them.

Psa 35:17 (NIV) O Lord, how long will you look on? Rescue my life from their ravages, my precious life from these lions. Lord, not only do I suffer from what they are doing, I suffer from all they did against me. Their words stick in my mind like glue. I bring all that damage before You, mighty God. I lay it at Your feet. Heal me with Your hand of love. Take the sting out of all their attacks against me. Give me a new life that is free from all they have said and done. Let me live like they never inflicted me. Provide me with such healing that can't remember anything that happened. They meant to do me harm. They wanted to destroy me. They only cared about devouring me so they could satisfy their own lusts. Take my precious life and free it from all they had planned for me.

Psa 35:18 (NIV) I will give you thanks in the great assembly; among throngs of people I will praise you. Because of Your great deliverance, Lord, I will praise You among Christians and I will praise You among the lost. I would have been destroyed if it were not for Your intervention. You have loved me with a great love. You have shown me a friendship that has far exceeded anything any human could provide. For all the evil people have done to me, You have provided much more good. You have never let me down. I knew I could count on You for all my needs. Even when I felt like I was going to die, I knew You would be waiting for me with all the greatness of eternity. I love You and praise You and want share Your glory with all people everywhere.

Psa 35:19 (NIV) Let not those gloat over me who are my enemies without cause; let not those who hate me without reason maliciously wink the eye. Heavenly Father, Satan wants to cause me to feel defeated. He hopes to so discourage me that I feel useless to You and Your work. Don't let him and his people gloat over me. Don't let them bring my heart down into despair. So many have rejected me and ignored me without a reason. They go on about their lives and feel fine without me being a part of their life. All this rejection is trying to say that You are not going to use me. Satan is saying that this all means that You don't want me to be a part of what You are doing. They all wink at each other as if I am a joke. They see me as a complete reject from all that is godly.

Psa 35:20 (NIV) They do not speak peaceably, but devise false accusations against those who live quietly in the land. These people are showing their true nature, God. They are constantly stirring up trouble with all those around them. People who want and give peace are tormented by them. They can't find anything wrong with these peaceful people. So, they devise false accusations against them. See their character, O God. Judge them on the basis of their constant trouble they create. They are quarrelling and fighting with people who aren't doing anything against them. They act like they are being attacked when no one has said an unkind word to them.

Psa 35:21 (NIV) They gape at me and say, "Aha! Aha! With our own eyes we have seen it." All their accusations against me are false. You have put Your righteousness in me. You have forgiven me of all my sins. You have made me Your righteousness in Christ Jesus. You see me through the blood that Jesus shed for me. They are acting like none of that has happened. They are trying to make me guilty for things You have done away with. Plus, they have added issues that I was never involved in. They say they have seen me doing these things. But they are lying through their teeth. Stop their stares of accusation. Stop their lies that try to tear me down. They haven't seen me do evil. They are the ones who are being and doing evil.

Psa 35:22 (NIV) O LORD, you have seen this; be not silent. Do not be far from me, O Lord. Lord, You were there when it all happened. You heard me cry out for forgiveness for all my sins. You were the One Who stepped in and forgave me. You were the One Who started me out on a new path. You were there when they all accused me. You saw the wounds inflicted on my heart. I didn't join them in their strife. Your Holy Spirit kept me from speaking against them when they attacked. You were there guiding me into peace and love. You know I still loved them as if they were my own body. You were there when I forgave them. You have seen all this and understand the truth. Open Your blessings to me. Come close to me and anoint me for a whole new work.

Psa 35:23 (NIV) Awake, and rise to my defense! Contend for me, my God and Lord. I can't live without You, Lord. I have no power to defend myself. Anything I say or do doesn't solve the problems. You are the only answer to wounds in my heart and the attacks in my life. Only You can give me favor with my friends. You alone can give me victory over my enemies. You have the exclusive power to bring peace and love into my relationships. I am looking to You for the answers to all my problems and difficulties. Come to my defense. Present your power and intervention in my behalf. You are my God and my Lord. I lay my life and my cause at Your feet. I want to be free to move forward in Your ways and in Your work. My success in all these things is founded on a complete faith and trust in You.

Psa 35:24 (NIV) Vindicate me in your righteousness, O LORD my God; do not let them gloat over me. I know You have special plans for me. You are always doing good things in my life and ministry. You have spoken to my heart concerning Your future You have developed for me. You are always assuring me that You will never give up on me. You have given me great dreams and wonderful goals for my future. When You and I are talking, I feel so secure in Your promises and investments You have made in my life. But, as I look at the constant resistance to my life and ministry, I start feeling some discouragement. They are trying to bring me down and make me feel there is no hope. Help me keep my eyes on You and Your greatness. Vindicate me in Your righteousness, my Lord and my God. They are gloating over my lack of success in Your work. They think they have stopped me. Please, don't let them gloat anymore. Raise me up for Your glory and honor. I know I don't deserve to be a part of Your mighty work. But, I believe in Your great grace and mercy.

Psa 35:25 (NIV) Do not let them think, "Aha, just what we wanted!" or say, "We have swallowed him up." Show them how much You love me. Show them how great Your forgiveness is. Let them look at me and see Your tremendous grace and mercy for Your people. Use me to reveal to them what an awesome God You are. Even though I am weak and flawed, You take advantage of them and produce Your great strength in their place. When they see how You have taken such a useless person like me and made me into Your wonderful handicraft, they will know what a great God You are. Even though they think they have killed all my hopes and dreams, prove to them that they are completely wrong. While they are thinking that they have put a stop to all You had planned for me, show them how wrong they are.

Psa 35:26 (NIV) May all who gloat over my distress be put to shame and confusion; may all who exalt themselves over me be clothed with shame and disgrace. They are happy that they have achieved such a victory over me. They are gloating over how much damage they have brought into my life and ministry. Bring shame and confusion by blessing large quantities of people through my life and ministry. Cause great shame and disgrace to come on them by making me a mighty channel through which You flow. I know that it is only by Your wonderful grace and mercy that this is possible. But, that is Who You are and what You do.

So many are hurting me with their exaltation of themselves over me. They won't include me or make me a part of those things they are doing for You. I sit on the sideline wanting an opportunity to join them in their blessings that they are receiving from You. I watch them as they enjoy the wonderful things You are doing in and through them. I long to be a part of such dynamic outpourings of Your Spirit. I imagine how special it would be if they would reach out to me and say that I can be a part. Make me into a person who will include all who are willing to join in Your work. Help me not just offer those things no one wants to do. Give me such great opportunities that I can make available to them that they are thrilled with the greatness of what You are offering them.

Psa 35:27 (NIV) May those who delight in my vindication shout for joy and gladness; may they always say, "The LORD be exalted, who delights in the well-being of his servant."

As You provide through me great opportunities to be used by You, let it be a mighty blessing to all who are longing to jump into Your mighty work. You, Jesus, were so inclusive with all who were willing to follow You. Your requirements were strict. But, all were invited to be a part. You didn't fill all the slots with people and then not have room for many more. You made everyone feel a part of You and all You were doing. This is how You are now. The work is great and plentiful. You are calling as many as will take up their cross and follow You. You aren't rejecting any that want to come. The openings for new workers are never full. This is bringing great excitement to those who are seeing what You are doing for me. They realize that if You will do it for someone like me, You will do it for them as well.

Psa 35:28 (NIV) My tongue will speak of your righteousness and of your praises all day long. You are my message. I devote my mouth to telling everyone who will listen about how great You are. When I thought it was all over, You came to my rescue. I will never be able to praise You enough. I will need eternity to worship and praise You. As long as I have breath, I want everyone to know that You are worthy of all praise. There is nothing You won't do to get goodness to all who will receive it. I give You my life and ministry to anoint me to be one who praises and leads in praise all who will worship You. Let all Your people speak forth Your greatness to all who do not know You. Put an excitement in our heart that springs forth like a mighty river. Move Your Holy Spirit in and through us to bless the hearts of all the people on this planet. We want all to know how great and wonderful You really are.