



GOD HAS YOUR BACK

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PREVIEW

When the whole world seems against you, make no mistake: God still has your back. He may not seem to be present, but He is covering your six. You just can't see Him because He's behind you, out of your immediate view. You have to trust Him, especially when His presence does not seem apparent.

PRAISE

David called God his glory, defense, deliverer, sustainer, and the lifter of his head. Thank God that He is our defender, He brings victory, and He restores hope! The Lord may not remove the opposition you are facing, but He will see you through it.

PARABLE

David was the youngest of eight brothers. Despite being the runt of the litter, David's great faith overcame overwhelming odds when he killed a nine-foot giant named Goliath, survived being on the run in the wilderness from jealous King Saul, and eventually became king of Israel in Saul's place. David was no stranger to conflict and resistance.

Under his rule, Israel rose to the height of its glory. It seemed King David had everything going for him, so he probably did not anticipate that one of his own sons would rebel against him.

Absalom, David's third son, had a falling out with his father when David failed to deal with Amnon, his oldest son and Absalom's half-brother, who had mistreated a member of Absalom's family. So Absalom took matters into his own hands and had Amnon killed. He then fled to Geshur, apparently to stay with his grandfather, King Talmai. Long story short, after three years David sent Joab, the captain of his army, to bring Absalom home to Jerusalem. Still, David did not welcome Absalom at the palace. This snub must have festered in Absalom's spirit because he deliberately and with malicious intent stole the hearts of the people from David. After gathering enough support and amassing an army, he started a rebellion, with the intention of usurping David's throne.

With some of David's closest advisors having turned against him, and his own son marching on Jerusalem with an army, David, his immediate family, and his royal court were forced to flee. Psalm 3 marks the morning of David's retreat: "O LORD, I have so many enemies; so many are against me. So many are saying, 'God will never rescue him!'" (Psalm 3:1-2 NLT).

PRESENT

When David awoke that morning, he didn't know just how things would turn out. Would Absalom's coup be successful? Would David and his family be the ones in exile? Or would God come to his rescue?

There likely are mornings you wake up to face many uncertainties. Whether due to circumstances or individuals, your world can seem overwhelming at times. You may not see God at work in your situation. You may even make poor judgments that compound your problems. But God always has your back!

Instead of plotting revenge, David responded to his son's heinous act of treason with prayer and worship. It took a few days and a few more dicey moments, but God restored David to the throne. Prayer and worship, faith and trust, are the same things that are going to carry you through those uncertain days. You don't have to go on the offensive because God is there.

PRACTICE

We can learn from David's example in Psalm 3 when he was surrounded by those intent on tearing him down.

- 1 David identified God as his greatest defense and hope (v. 3).
- 2 He verbalized his dependence upon God, asking for His help (v. 4).
- 3 He patiently rested in God's provision (v. 5).
- 4 He did not let fear persuade him to act brashly (v. 6).
- 5 He let the Lord fight on his behalf (v. 7).

Even when people come against you, do not respond in kind, do not lash out in fear. Some people will do what they're going to do, and you can't stop them. You simply must let God do what He is going to do for you.

PRAY

God, give me the faith to know that even when You seem far away from my situation and I can't see You, that You have my back, You are my defense, and You are my hope.

Give me the courage, even when others are up in my face, not to act spitefully. Your actions, Lord, are greater than any actions I could take on my own behalf.

I pray for Your peace, Lord, in the face of uncertainty and confusion, and for the patience to wait on Your salvation.

PLUS

This week begin each day in prayer and worship, just as David did. If you are facing a particularly difficult time and can't seem to find the right words, read Psalm 3 each morning. Let it be your prayer as it was David's. God is aware of your situation and will come to your rescue.