

Today, we will have our 8th lecture on the book of Psalms. /We will start with Psalm 35. /God delivers us from the net.

/Verses 1-6. Let us read. /Contend, O LORD, with those who contend with me; fight against those who fight against me! Take hold of shield and buckler and rise for my help! Draw the spear and javelin against my pursuers! Say to my soul, “I am your salvation!” Let them be put to shame and dishonor who seek after my life! Let them be turned back and disappointed who devise evil against me! Let them be like chaff before the wind, with the angel of the LORD driving them away! Let their way be dark and slippery, with the angel of the LORD pursuing them!

/The writer is praying that God would be his shield. /There are always people who fight against the church and believers. /Verse 2 is a prayer to God that says, “Take hold of shield and buckler and rise for my help!”

/Verse 3 says to the LORD, “Draw the spear and javelin against my pursuers!” /Then, God says to me, / “I am your salvation.” /He says to us, “I will deliver you.” /How uplifting is it to hear these words from God?

/Who is saying these words? /God is speaking these words to me. / “I am your salvation.” /This message alone is grace to us. /There are many who try to harm us. /People try to insult us.

/Verse 5 says, “Let them be like chaff before the wind.” /Verse 6 reads, “Let their way be dark and slippery.” /God sends his angel to thwart the plans and deeds of the wicked.

/Isaiah 37:36 talks about this. /Assyria had invaded Judah. /At night, God sent his angel down to the camp. /And the angel killed one hundred eighty-five thousand people. /The Assyrian army became a pile of corpses.

/God had sent one of his angels. /The Bible says God sent one angel, not two or more. /We do not know how powerful one angel can be. /Angels possess godlike power.

/Hebrews 1:14 says that angels are ministering spirits sent by God. /May the angels of the LORD pursue them!

/Verses 7-10. /For without cause they hid their net for me; without cause they dug a pit for my life. Let destruction come upon him when he does not know it! And let the net that he hid ensnare him; let him fall into it—to his destruction! Then my soul will rejoice in the LORD, exulting in his salvation. All my bones shall say, “O LORD, who is like you, delivering the poor from him who is too strong for him, the poor and needy from him who robs him?”

/My enemies have dug a pit. /There are pits intended to entrap God’s church and his believers. /These pits refer to evil plans or evil intentions. /There are nets that the wicked have hidden.

/God protects us so that we do not fall into these pits. /The wicked fall into the nets that intend to ensnare us. /God's salvation is among us. /Verse 10 says, "O LORD, who is like you?"

/Is there anyone like our God? /Is there anyone who is as powerful as God? /God is the only one who can deliver us from plunderers. /The believer must do two things to avoid falling into the net.

/First, the believer must be awake and pray. /The eyes of our spirits open when we stay awake and pray. /God allows us to see things that we formerly could not see. /Second, the believer must preach the word of God. /Preaching the word may appear foolish, but do not forget that the word is wisdom.

/Verses 11-16. /Malicious witnesses rise up; they ask me of things that I do not know. They repay me evil for good; my soul is bereft. But I, when they were sick— I wore sackcloth; I afflicted myself with fasting; I prayed with head bowed on my chest. I went about as though I grieved for my friend or my brother; as one who laments his mother, I bowed down in mourning. But at my stumbling they rejoiced and gathered; they gathered together against me; wretches whom I did not know tore at me without ceasing; like profane mockers at a feast, they gnash at me with their teeth.

/Do you love your enemies? /Evil people rise up and try to find fault in me, asking me questions. /Malicious witnesses rise and criticize me with lies. /Verse 12 says that the evil repay evil for good.

/However, in verse 13, I sympathized with them when they were sick and afflicted. /I wore sackcloth and fasted for them, and I was sad with them. /However, my prayer came back to me. /Some people will not accept the gospel when we preach it to them.

/When they do not accept it, peace returns to us. /There will be people who do not listen when we preach the gospel. /The Bible tells us to leave the family or village that does not accept the word. /As we leave the village, we need to shake the dust off our feet.

/We should not connect with anyone who does not accept the gospel. /We are trying to bless them, but they do not accept. /Then, our prayers will come back to us.

/Verse 14 says, "I went about as though I grieved for my friend or my brother." /Also, I lamented with them and comforted them. /However, verse 15 says that they rejoiced and gathered at my stumbling.

/These people are nasty people. /The wicked gather and strike me and tear me apart. /In verse 16, they mock and gnash their teeth at the church and the believers. /Verse 17 says, "How long, O Lord, will you look on?"

/Verses 17-21. /How long, O Lord, will you look on? Rescue me from their destruction, my precious life from the lions! I will thank you in the great congregation; in the mighty throng I will praise you. Let not those rejoice over me who are wrongfully my foes, and let not those wink the eye who hate me without cause. For they do not speak peace, but against those who are quiet in the land they devise words of deceit. They open wide their mouths against me; they say, “Aha, Aha! Our eyes have seen it!”

/Verse 17 talks about “my precious life.” /Rescue me from people who are like lions and beasts. /Save me from the tyranny of the wicked. /How long will you look on, O God?

/I am in great trouble. /The wicked are liars. /Verse 19 says, “Let not those rejoice over me who are wrongfully my foes.” /God, do not let the wicked rejoice. /O Lord! Do not be silent.

/Verses 22-28. /You have seen, O LORD; be not silent! O Lord, be not far from me! Awake and rouse yourself for my vindication, for my cause, my God and my Lord! Vindicate me, O LORD, my God, according to your righteousness, and let them not rejoice over me! Let them not say in their hearts, “Aha, our heart's desire!” Let them not say, “We have swallowed him up.” Let them be put to shame and disappointed altogether who rejoice at my calamity! Let them be clothed with shame and dishonor who magnify themselves against me! Let those who delight in my righteousness shout for joy and be glad and say evermore, “Great is the LORD, who delights in the welfare of his servant!” Then my tongue shall tell of your righteousness and of your praise all the day long.

/Verse 25 says that the wicked say, “Aha, our heart's desire!” /I am relieved to see that church is not doing well. /I am glad to see believers in pain. /We have swallowed those people up. /We have won.

/David prayed that he would no longer hear these things. /Verse 26 says, “Let them be clothed with shame and dishonor who magnify themselves against me!” /Verse 27 says, “Let those who delight in my righteousness shout for joy and be glad.”

/Great is the LORD. /He delights in the welfare of his servant. /We need to think greatly of God alone, and we need to long for peace through God. /I hope the peace of God is with all of you.

/We will now study Psalm 36.

/Verses 1-4. Let us read. /Transgression speaks to the wicked deep in his heart; there is no fear of God before his eyes. For he flatters himself in his own eyes that his iniquity cannot be found out and hated. The words of his mouth are trouble and deceit; he has ceased to act wisely and do good. He plots trouble while on his bed; he sets himself in a way that is not good; he does not reject evil.

/God is the source of our life. /Sinners do not know him. /Sinners do not fear God. /The eyes of sinners do not see God. /They are not ashamed when their sins are revealed.

/Verse 4 says that the wicked plot trouble on their beds. /The wicked do not accept what is good. /They even plot evil schemes in their sleep. /However, God is a faithful God.

/Verses 5-8. /Your steadfast love, O LORD, extends to the heavens, your faithfulness to the clouds. Your righteousness is like the mountains of God; your judgments are like the great deep; man and beast you save, O LORD. How precious is your steadfast love, O God! The children of mankind take refuge in the shadow of your wings. They feast on the abundance of your house, and you give them drink from the river of your delights.

/ “Steadfast love” in verse 5 refers to God’s love. / “Your faithfulness” refers to God’s faithfulness. /Verse 6 says that God’s righteousness is like the mountains of God. /His judgments are like the deep oceans. /God protects us people and the beasts.

/Anyone can see God’s righteousness, which is like the mountains. /What does God delight in? /God’s judgment is deep like the oceans. /No one can refute his judgment. /No one can deny it.

/Verse 7 says that God’s love is a precious love. /We need to take refuge under the Lord’s wings. /Are you finding protection under God’s wings? /We have the comfort of God. /Song of Solomon 2:6 says that

/the Lord’s left arm is our pillow and his right hand embraces us. /The left hand is the hand of comfort. /The right hand is the hand of power. /The Lord protects us. /He embraces us. /We must find refuge under the wings of God.

/We must take refuge in the shadow of his wings. /Verse 8 says, “They feast on the abundance of your house, and you give them drink from the river of your delights.” /God gives us his delights.

/Verses 9-12. /For with you is the fountain of life; in your light do we see light. Oh, continue your steadfast love to those who know you, and your righteousness to the upright of heart! Let not the foot of arrogance come upon me, nor the hand of the wicked drive me away. There the evildoers lie fallen; they are thrust down, unable to rise.

/What do we gain from seeking refuge under God’s wings? /Verse 8 says that God will fill us up with the abundance of his house. /He will let us drink from the river of his delights.

/Verse 9 says, “For with you is the fountain of life.” /It also says, “In your light do we see light.” God leads us in his light. /We need a fountain of life.

/The fountain of life is mentioned in John 4:14. /In the Lord, there is the work of life. /The work of grace also belongs to the Lord. /Thus Jesus revives our spirits. /Through this we find strength. /We receive comfort from God. /God’s light shines upon us from this place.

/Verses 10-12. /Oh, continue your steadfast love to those who know you, and your righteousness to the upright of heart! Let not the foot of arrogance come upon me, nor the hand of the wicked drive me away. There the evildoers lie fallen; they are thrust down, unable to rise.

/God shares his love with those who know God. /He continues his righteousness to the upright of heart. /God's love and righteousness are like the two rails of a train. /We need to know his love and his righteousness.

/God is love, but at the same time, he is just. /God loves us, but he does not love our sins. /Verse 11 says, "Let not the foot of arrogance come upon me."

/It is very important that we find refuge in the shadow of God's wings. /What reward is there when we do this? /God feeds us until we are full. /He also gives us great joy. /God grants us the fountain of life. /He shines his light on us. /I hope this grace of God is upon all of you.

/We will continue with Psalm 37. /Believers who live according to God's will inherit the land. /God gives the wide lands to us. /It means that God will extend our borders. /Also, we will win the hearts of many.

/Verses 1-6. Let us read. /Fret not yourself because of evildoers; be not envious of wrongdoers! For they will soon fade like the grass and wither like the green herb. Trust in the LORD, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness. Delight yourself in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him, and he will act. He will bring forth your righteousness as the light, and your justice as the noonday.

/Do not worry when evildoers prosper. /Do not be angry when the wicked succeed. /Verse 2 says, "For they will soon fade like the grass and wither like the green herb."

/What do you think about the wicked prospering? /Job 21:7 says, "Why do the wicked live, reach old age, and grow mighty in power?" /The wicked toil all their lives and spend all their strength to make money.

/To earn money, they wake up early in the morning and go to sleep late at night. /They eat the bread of their suffering. /However, the wicked do not spend what they have earned. /Who spends the money they save up? /Their children fight each other for their parents' money.

/Once the wicked die, others share their wealth. /God distributes the money among other people. /For whom do the wicked save money? /God divides the wealth among his people. /We must receive what God gives us.

/Verse 3 says, “Trust in the LORD, and do good.” / “Dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness.” /We need to be faithful, and we need to live according to God’s word. /We must be upright in our spiritual lives.

/Verse 4 says, “Delight yourself in the LORD.” We are graced when we rejoice in God. / God will listen to the desires of our heart. /Believers! Do you have any desires in your heart?

/Our desires must be in line with God’s will. /We need to have desires that are in line with the Bible. /Wild dreams are not real desires. /God listens to our requests when they match up with the will of God.

/Verse 5 says, “Commit your way to the LORD.” /God will fulfill everything for us when we trust in him. /We must not attempt to do things in our own strength. /How can we know if we are trying to do things by ourselves?

/Some believers of Jesus are trying to do something on their own. /Someone might say, “I am not doing it on my own.” /There is a way to see if this is true. /When someone tries to do something by their own power, they become a prisoner to worries and concerns. /Our head hurts when this happens.

/We also have trouble digesting food. /Our hearts thump loudly. /If someone tries to do it on his own, God leaves the person be. /God says, “Okay, you can try it.” / “I will stay still.” /Believers! Do you trust in God? /Leave everything to him.

/God’s will is for us to prosper. /Even if things do not go well for us, it is because God allowed it. /I must simply do what I should do. /We need to commit our ways to the LORD.

/Verse 6 says that if we do this, God will bring forth righteousness as the light. /The verse says, “He will bring forth your righteousness as the light.” /Also, God will allow us to claim the land.

/Verses 7-9. /Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him; fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way, over the man who carries out evil devices! Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath! Fret not yourself; it tends only to evil. For the evildoers shall be cut off, but those who wait for the LORD shall inherit the land.

/We need to spend time waiting patiently for God. /We need to spend time waiting and praying until God responds. /Isaiah 40:31 tells us to wait for the LORD.

/We must trust in God and wait. /Romans 5:3,4 tell us to rejoice in our suffering. /Suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope. /We must wait for God. /We need to learn to be patient and wait.

/For how many months does a woman carrying a child wait? /Pregnant mothers have to wait ten months to give birth to their child. /What happens if the mother does not wait? /She cannot have a child. /How many months must we wait to bear fruit?

/We shouldn't worry or be angry when the wicked succeed. /Stop your rage, and do not be angry. /It will only damage your body. /Verse 9 says that evildoers will be cut off.

/However, those who wait for the LORD will inherit the land. /The phrase "inherit the land" appears 5 times. /Verse 22 says that we will inherit the land.

/Verse 29 says it as well. /Verse 34 also talks about inheriting the land. /The first meaning of this is that God will make us prosperous. /The second meaning is we will win the hearts of many people. /The land represents our hearts.

/Matthew 13:19 says that /we sow the seed on the land. /Some land exists in the form of a road. /Some land is rocky. /There is land that is covered by thorns. /Finally, some land is made of good soil. /The land symbolizes our hearts.

/Thirdly, to inherit the land means that we will be able to use everything in our faith. /God will grant everything to us. /If we have a heart that seeks to do God's will, God will give us everything we need.

/1 Corinthians 3:21 talks about this. /Let no one boast in men! For all things are yours. /God gives everything to us. /Fourth, God gives us a spiritual inheritance. /Our spiritual inheritance becomes larger. /In these ways, God lets those who look to him inherit the land.

/Verses 10-13. /In just a little while, the wicked will be no more; though you look carefully at his place, he will not be there. But the meek shall inherit the land and delight themselves in abundant peace. The wicked plots against the righteous and gnashes his teeth at him, but the Lord laughs at the wicked, for he sees that his day is coming.

/In a little while, the wicked will be no more. /Even if we try to find the wicked, we will not discover them. /The meek will inherit the land. /They will enjoy abundant peace.

/Who are the meek? /They are those who are humble. /They are people who deny themselves. /The meek are also poor in spirit. /They also long for God.

/Verse 12 says that the wicked plots against the righteous and gnashes his teeth at him. /Verse 13 says that God laughs at the wicked. /The day of God is coming. /It is a day of God's judgment.

/Verses 14-20. /The wicked draw the sword and bend their bows to bring down the poor and needy, to slay those whose way is upright; their sword shall enter their own heart, and their bows shall be broken. Better is the little that the righteous has than the abundance of many wicked. For the arms of the wicked shall be broken, but

the LORD upholds the righteous. The LORD knows the days of the blameless, and their heritage will remain forever; they are not put to shame in evil times; in the days of famine they have abundance. But the wicked will perish; the enemies of the LORD are like the glory of the pastures; they vanish—like smoke they vanish away.

/The wicked have drawn the sword. /They have bended their bows. /The wicked are pointing their arrows at the humble believer and the upright as they try to kill them. /The deeds of the wicked attempt to kill upright people.

/Verse 15 says that God will make their sword enter their own heart. /God breaks the bows of the wicked. /He thwarts the plans of the wicked. /The plans of the wicked eventually fail.

/At first, it may seem like the wicked are going to succeed. /They say, “We have found our opportunity.” / “We will win.” /However, God makes the plans of the wicked fail.

/Verse 16 says that the little that the righteous has is /better than the abundance of many wicked. /In verse 17, God breaks the arms of the wicked. /Believers! What happens when someone breaks his arm? /He must wear a cast on his arm.

/If our arms are broken, we cannot do the important things we need to do. /The significance here is that God is the one who breaks the arms of the wicked. /God does not help the wicked. /God breaks the wicked, but he upholds the righteous.

/Verse 19 says that the believer will not be put to shame in evil times. /God will make the believer abundant even during famine. /The wicked temporarily appear to prosper like the thick pastures. /However, after a while, the grass dries up. In this way, the wicked perish.

/God is a flame that judges. /Therefore, the wicked will vanish like smoke. /After God’s judgment passes through, there will be no trace of the wicked.

/Verses 21-24. /The wicked borrows but does not pay back, but the righteous is generous and gives; for those blessed by the LORD shall inherit the land, but those cursed by him shall be cut off. The steps of a man are established by the LORD, when he delights in his way; though he fall, he shall not be cast headlong, for the LORD upholds his hand.

/The wicked borrows, but he does not pay back. /The righteous generously gives to others. /Verse 22 says that those blessed by the LORD will inherit the land. /However, those cursed by the Lord will be cut off from the land.

/In verse 23, who establishes the steps of man? /God is the one who establishes our steps. /There are times when the righteous stumbles. /Are there times when you are tired? /Are there times when you are dismayed?

/Although we may fall, God does not let us fall over completely. /God upholds the hand of the righteous. /If God is holding on to us, we will never fall down. Proverbs 24:16.

/Verses 25-29. /I have been young, and now am old, yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken or his children begging for bread. He is ever lending generously, and his children become a blessing. Turn away from evil and do good; so shall you dwell forever. For the LORD loves justice; he will not forsake his saints. They are preserved forever, but the children of the wicked shall be cut off. The righteous shall inherit the land and dwell upon it forever.

/David realized something as he went from being young to being old. /He saw that the righteous was never forsaken. /He did not see the children of the righteous starve.

/Verse 26 says that the righteous is ever lending generously, /and his children are blessed. /God eventually blesses the righteous. /What is important here? /Verse 7 says, “Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him; fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way, over the man who carries out evil devices!”

/We need to be patient in our waiting. /We need to wait in our faith. /We should not complain or be discouraged. /Although nothing may be fulfilled immediately, we must be patient and wait.

/We need to have faith in God. /Isaiah 40:31 says that those who wait on the LORD will renew their strength. /If we are patient and wait, God will show us his grace.

/Verse 27 tells us to turn away from evil and do good. /We need to do the things that please God, /and we must continue living holy lives. /Verse 28 says that God will eternally preserve the righteous. /Verse 29 says that the righteous will inherit the land. /They will dwell in the land forever.

/Verses 30-34. /The mouth of the righteous utters wisdom, and his tongue speaks justice. The law of his God is in his heart; his steps do not slip. The wicked watches for the righteous and seeks to put him to death. The LORD will not abandon him to his power or let him be condemned when he is brought to trial. Wait for the LORD and keep his way, and he will exalt you to inherit the land; you will look on when the wicked are cut off.

/The righteous utters wisdom, and his tongue speaks justice. /Verse 31 says that the law of God is in his heart. /Truth is in him. /The steps of the righteous refers to his deeds. /The righteous does not slip. /He does not fail.

/In verse 32, the wicked is watching the righteous. /He is looking for the opportunity to kill the righteous person. /However, in verse 33, God does not abandon the righteous to the wicked. /God exalts the righteous. /Because the righteous person keeps the way of the LORD, /God will let him inherit the land.

/Verses 36-40. /But he passed away, and behold, he was no more; though I sought him, he could not be found. Mark the blameless and behold the upright, for there is a future for the man of peace. But transgressors shall be altogether destroyed; the future of the

wicked shall be cut off. The salvation of the righteous is from the LORD; he is their stronghold in the time of trouble. The LORD helps them and delivers them; he delivers them from the wicked and saves them, because they take refuge in him.

/The wicked appears to be like a tall, green tree. /He seems to be prosperous. /However, after time passes, there is nothing left for the wicked. /We may search for him, but we will not find him.

/But what happens to God's believers? /Believers appear to be weak. /They find refuge in the shadow of God's wings. /Verse 37 says that God's peace with the righteous. /God makes everything go well for the righteous.

/Little by little, God makes things better for the righteous person. /In verse 39, the salvation of the righteous is from the LORD. /God is a refuge for the afflicted righteous people. /We are believers who find refuge in God.

/Verse 40 says that God delivers us. /I hope you inherit the land God gives you. /Thank you.