

Psalm 64:1–10 — A Prayer for Protection and Confidence in God

Psalm 64 is another heartfelt prayer of David. In these verses, we find David turning to God in the face of hidden enemies and slanderous attacks, entrusting his cause to the only sure defense he knows—God Himself.

"Hear my voice, O God, in my meditation; Preserve my life from fear of the enemy." (Psalm 64:1, NKJV)

David does not merely ask for protection from his enemies; he specifically pleads for deliverance from *fear*. Fear can paralyze and cripple a person's soul. Fear is more than just an emotional response—it can become a debilitating spiritual force that undermines trust in God. David asks not only for physical protection but for preservation from the *fear* of his enemies.

This is a reminder for us: the true battle is not just against external enemies but also against inward fear. Fear must not rule the heart of a believer. Scripture tells us, *"God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind"* (2 Timothy 1:7).

"Hide me from the secret plots of the wicked, From the rebellion of the workers of iniquity, Who sharpen their tongue like a sword, And bend their bows to shoot their arrows—bitter words." (Psalm 64:2–3, NKJV)

David describes his enemies in vivid terms: their tongues are sharpened like swords; their words are like arrows shot in secret. They engage in covert plotting and verbal assaults aimed at the "perfect"—that is, the blameless or upright.

Words can wound as deeply as physical weapons. David's enemies plotted in secret, confident in their schemes, but God sees all hidden things. How often today do believers face hidden opposition or slanderous words? Yet, we are called not to retaliate but to trust God who judges righteously.

"That they may shoot in secret at the blameless; Suddenly they shoot at him and do not fear. They encourage themselves in an evil matter; They talk of laying snares secretly; They say, 'Who will see them?' They devise iniquities: 'We have perfected a shrewd scheme.' Both the inward thought and the heart of man are deep." (Psalm 64:4–6, NKJV)

The enemy's plotting is calculated, even applauded among themselves. They are emboldened by the thought that no one sees their schemes. But David knows better: though their plans seem hidden from human eyes, nothing is hidden from the Lord. He sees not only the deeds but the deep thoughts of every heart.

"But God shall shoot at them with an arrow; Suddenly they shall be wounded. So He will make them stumble over their own tongue; All who see them shall flee away." (Psalm 64:7–8, NKJV)

Here is the turning point: *But God*. David's confidence is not in his ability to answer or outmaneuver his enemies but in God's righteous intervention. Just as they secretly shoot their arrows, God will strike them suddenly with His own. Their downfall will come not by David's hand but by God's judgment, turning their own tongues against them.

We, too, must remember this: God is able to turn the evil plans of others back upon their own heads. Our defense is not in retaliation but in resting in God's justice.

*"All men shall fear, And shall declare the work of God; For they shall wisely consider His doing."
(Psalm 64:9, NKJV)*

God's righteous acts will not only vindicate David but will serve as a testimony to all. When God acts, it provokes reverence, and many will recognize His hand at work. His dealings teach wisdom to those willing to learn.

*"The righteous shall be glad in the Lord, and trust in Him. And all the upright in heart shall glory."
(Psalm 64:10, NKJV)*

The psalm closes with confidence. The righteous—those who trust not in their own strength but in the Lord—will rejoice. Joy is the natural result of trust in God. The upright in heart, those who walk in integrity and faith, will glory not in themselves but in the Lord's faithful deliverance.

Personal Application:

In our lives, there may be hidden attacks—unseen criticisms, false accusations, secret opposition. Like David, we must bring our cause to the Lord. Fear need not dominate us. Our enemies may plot in secret, but we have a Defender who sees openly.

Rather than fighting back with bitterness, let us trust the Lord to bring justice. Our task is to remain upright, to seek His face in prayer, and to find joy in His defense.

As Psalm 37:5 reminds us:

"Commit your way to the Lord, Trust also in Him, And He shall bring it to pass." (NKJV)