

PSALM

35

LORD, plead my case

Capo 3: G D G C (G C G) D (A⁷ D)

1 LORD, plead my case when I am charged by foes mal - i - cious - ly;
 2 May those who seek to take my life en - dure dis - grace and shame;
 3 Since they have spread a net for me with - out a cause at all,

G F[♯] C D⁷ (G D) G

and fight for me when they at - tack and vent their spite on me.
 may those who plot my o - ver - throw turn back the way they came.
 and for no rea - son dug a pit that in it I might fall,

G Em B⁷ E Am D⁷ (G D Em⁷ D⁷) G

Take up your shield! Come to my aid! Speak to my soul and say,
 And may the an - gel of the LORD drive them a - way like chaff.
 let ru - in seize them, and let them in their own net be caught;

D⁷ G D G Am G D⁷ G

"I'm your sal - va - tion." With your spear cut off my ene - mies' way.
 May he pur - sue them all a - long a dark and slip - pery path.
 may they in - stead fall in their pit and so to death be brought.

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- 4 Then will my soul rejoice in God
and in his saving name.
“Who is a God like you, O LORD?”
my heart and soul exclaim.
“The poor you rescue from the hands
of those who are too strong;
you save the poor and weak from those
who rob and do them wrong.”
- 5 Malicious witnesses rise up
and falsely slander me;
I have no knowledge of the things
they ask accusingly.
They pay back evil for my good
and leave my soul forlorn.
Yet, at their illness, I would fast
and, clad in sackcloth, mourn.
- 6 And when my prayers went out unheard,
I mourned as one bereaved
of mother, brother, closest friend;
I bowed my head and grieved.
But when I slipped they gathered round
and gloated with delight;
like godless jesters at a feast,
they gnashed their teeth in spite.
- 7 O LORD, how long will you look on?
Defend me from their strife;
from these marauding lions’ teeth
protect my precious life.
Then where the great assembly meets
to you I will give praise;
among the crowds of worshippers
in thanks my voice I’ll raise.
- 8 Let him not gloat who, without cause,
is my fierce enemy,
nor those who hate me unprovoked
stare spitefully at me.
They do not speak in peaceful words,
but cunning schemes have planned,
accusing those who live at peace
and quiet in the land.
- 9 Triumphantly they shout and say,
“His wickedness we see!”
LORD, you have seen; hold not your
peace.
LORD, be not far from me.
Awake, and rise to my defence!
Contend for me, my God.
Do not let them gloat over me;
in justice judge, O LORD.
- 10 Let them not think within their hearts,
“At last! Just what we want!”
Nor let them say, “We’ve swallowed
him” –
let that not be their taunt.
May all who gloat at my distress
know shame and loss of face;
may all who triumph over me
be covered with disgrace.
- 11 May those who long to see me cleared
shout out with joy and sing:
“The LORD be praised, who loves to
see
his servant prospering.”
I will extol your righteousness;
I’ll praise you with my tongue.
I will proclaim your greatness, LORD,
and praise you all day long.