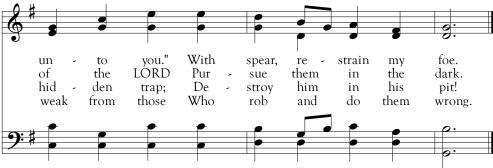
35A LORD, Plead My Case





- 5. 11 Malicious witnesses arise
 And falsely slander me;
 They ask me things I do not know,
 To charge me wickedly.
 12 They pay back evil for my good
 And leave my soul forlorn;
 13 Yet at their illness I would fast,
 And clad in sackloth mourn.
- 6. 14I grieved for them as one might mourn For mother, brother, friend, 15But when I stumbled, they rejoiced And mocked me without end. Against me unknown wretches came, They mocked maliciously, 16Like those who have no fear of God, And gnashed their teeth at me.
- 7. 17O Lord, how long will Thou look on?
 Defend me from their strife;
 From these marauding lions' teeth
 Protect my precious life.
 18 Then where the great assembly meets
 To Thee will I give praise;
 Among the crowds of worshipers
 Thanksgiving I will raise.
- 8. 19Let not my wrongful enemies
 Raise o'er me joyful cries;
 Nor those who hate me without cause
 With malice wink their eyes.
 20In peaceful words they do not speak,
 But cunning schemes they plan,
 Accusing those who live at peace
 And quiet in the land.

- 9. 21Triumphantly they shout and say,
 "Aha! Aha! We see!"
 22LORD, Thou has seen; hold not Thy peace,
 Lord, be not far from me.
 23Awake, to my defense arise!
 My God, for me contend.
 24With justice judge me, LORD, my God;
 Their wicked gloating end.
- 10. 25 Within their hearts let them not say,
 "At last! Just what we want!"

 Nor let them say, "We swallowed him"

 Let that not be their taunt.

 26 May all who gloat at my distress

 Know shame and loss of face;

 May those who proudly bring me down
 Be covered with disgrace.
- 11. 27May those who long to see my cleared With gladness shout and sing:
 "The LORD be praised, who loves to see His servant prospering."
 28Thy righteousness will I extol;
 My toungue will speak Thy praise.
 And I will tell Thy greatness, LORD,
 And praise Thee all my days.