PSALM

3

Lament Turning

Psalms of David · Book I

"A Psalm of David, when he fled from Absalom his son"

PICTURE WORD
Shield

IN ONE SENTENCE

urrounded by many enemies, David lies down and sleeps in peace because the LORD is his shield and saves.

Remember it: Psalm Three: with God my shield around me, I can sleep.

MEMORY VERSE

But You, O Yahweh, are a shield around me
my glory
and the lifter of my head

Psalm 3:3 · the author's translation

HEBREW WORD

מָגֵן

"shield" · verse 3

In the Psalms: nineteen times, in 14 psalms

מָגֵן, "shield," names the small shield a soldier carried into battle. David says the LORD is a shield "around me," protection on every side, not just in front. The same picture appears often in the Psalms for God guarding his people.

HOW THE PSALM MOVES

1–2	Enemies multiply and say God will not help him.
3–4	The LORD is his shield, and he answers prayer.
5–6	He sleeps, wakes, and refuses to fear the crowd.
7–8	He asks God to rise and save; salvation is the LORD's.

MY NOTES

Listen. Hear Psalm 3 sung in the **Psalm Song** app, or free at **ispress.de/psalms/3**.

Cantillated. Sung: chanted back and forth between a leader and the people.

Refuge in Trouble · God Will Not Abandon You

FILL IN THE BLANKS

Surrounded by many _____, David lies down and _____ in peace because the LORD is his _____ and saves.

CHECK YOURSELF

1. What do many people say about David's soul?

- (A) He is the greatest king
- (B) There is no help for him in God
- (C) He will rule forever
- (D) He has sinned too much

2. Why could David lie down, sleep, and wake again?

- (A) His army stood guard
- (B) His enemies went home
- (C) Yahweh sustains him
- (D) He was in a strong city

3. To whom does salvation belong?

- (A) To the king
- (B) To the strongest army
- (C) To the priests
- (D) To Yahweh

TALK IT OVER

1. What three things does David call the LORD in verse 3?

2. What does it mean that God "lifts up my head"?

3. What keeps you awake at night, and how could this psalm help you rest?

IN YOUR OWN WORDS: WHAT DOES PSALM 3 TEACH?

- ☐ I listened to the song
- ☐ I can say verse 3 by heart
- ☐ I can say what it teaches
- ☐ I know the picture word

Answers Blanks: enemies · sleeps · shield · Check yourself: 1. B (v. 2) · 2. C (v. 5) · 3. D (v. 8)