

## THE WHOLE WORLD IS AGAINST US

My dad used to jokingly say, "I wouldn't be so paranoid, if everybody wasn't out to get me." Obviously, he was trying (emphasis on that word!) to be funny. All joking aside, though, sometimes it feels like no one is on our side. The Adversary seems to be working overtime to gather as many adversaries against us as possible. When these thoughts start to take hold in our minds, fear is the inevitable result.

The writer of Psalm 3 knew the feeling of fear. He also knew how to overcome it as well. He could do this by - identifying the source of his fears (1-2), praying through his fears (3-4), knowing true security rests in Yahweh (5-6), and relying on Yahweh for ultimate justice and deliverance.

We must recognize who the real enemies are. They are not our bosses or coworkers who may do everything within their power to make our jobs miserable. They are not those who don't look like us, or talk like us, or vote like us. They are not even people who would actually do us physical harm if given the opportunity.

Paul wrote in Ephesians 6:12, *For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.* (ESV)

Jesus said in Matthew 10:26-28, *So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered that will not be revealed, or hidden that will not be known. What I tell you in the dark, say in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim on the housetops. And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell.* (ESV)

The psalmist reminds us that our protection, our identity, and our confidence are all found and fully realized in the LORD God! He will answer us. He will deliver us. He will ultimately right every wrong. All we have to do is put our trust in him!

The world is trapped in darkness and has been blinded to the truth. Darkness fears the light and will lash out against it when confronted and challenged by it. But we will not be afraid of many thousands of people who have set themselves against us. Come what may, we will trust in the Father, the Son, and the Spirit because salvation belongs to the LORD!

John 16:33, *I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.* (ESV)

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