Psalm 54:1-3 (HCS) God, save me by Your name, and vindicate me by Your might! <sup>2</sup> God, hear my prayer; listen to the words of my mouth. <sup>3</sup> For strangers rise up against me, and violent men seek my life. They have no regard for God.

### Psalm 54:4-5 (HCS)

God is my helper; the Lord is the sustainer of my life. <sup>5</sup> He will repay my adversaries for their evil. Because of Your faithfulness, annihilate them. Psalm 54:6-7 (HCS) I will sacrifice a freewill offering to You. I will praise Your name, LORD, because it is good. <sup>7</sup> For He has delivered me from every trouble, and my eye has looked down on my enemies.

# BETRAYAL and ATTACK

Psalm 54:1-7



#### Psalm 54

For the director of music. With stringed instruments. A maskil of David. When the **Ziphites** had gone to Saul and said, Is not David hiding among us?



1 Samuel 23:14,19-20 (NLT) David now stayed in the strongholds of the wilderness and in the hill country of Ziph. Saul hunted him day after day, but God didn't let Saul find him.





...<sup>19</sup> But now the men of Ziph went to Saul in Gibeah and **BETRAYED** David to him. "We know where David is hiding," they said. "He is in the strongholds of Horesh on the hill of Hakilah, which is in the southern part of Jeshimon.<sup>20</sup> Come down whenever you're ready, O king, and we will **catch** him and hand him over to you!"

By Your NAME, by Your great and glorious nature. Employ all Your attributes FOR me. Let every one of the perfections which are blended in Your divine NAME work on MY behalf.

Spurgeon

### Anguished call for Vindication

<sup>1</sup> God, save me by Your name, and **VINDICATE** me by Your might.

(HCS)

# Vindicate- to be FREE from Accusation or Blame

### <sup>1</sup> Come with great power, O God, and **RESCUE me. DEFEND me** with **Your might**.

(NLT)

<sup>4</sup> God is my helper; the Lord is the sustainer of my life.
<sup>5</sup> He WILL repay my adversaries for their EVIL. Because of Your faithfulness, ANNIHILATE them.

(HCS)

## This **IMPRECATION** is **NOT vindictive** it an expression of **TRUST** in God's **Divine JUSTICE**. Evil must be repaid.

Expositor

# God is MY HELP God is my HELPER; the Lord is the SUSTAINER of my life.

(HCS)

**Prayer for Deliverance** 

**Description of Danger** 



**Description of Solution** 

**Thanksgiving for Deliverance** 

1 Samuel 23:15 (NLT) One day near Horesh, David received the news that Saul was on the way to Ziph to SEARCH for him and KILL him.

### 1 Samuel 23:16-17 (NLT) <sup>16</sup> Jonathan went to find David and ENCOURAGED

him to stay strong in his faith in God. <sup>17</sup> Don't be afraid, Jonathan reassured him. My father will never find you...

### God's Justice and Vengeance are Always PERFECT

<sup>5</sup> May those who wait to AMBUSH me BE REPAID for their evil. As a demonstration of your faithfulness, DESTROY them.

(NET)

Imprecatory Psalms were NOT written out of vindictiveness or a need for personal vengeance. They are prayers that keep God's justice, sovereignty, and protection in mind.

gotquestions.org

The Truth is that Imprecatory Psalms communicate a DEEP yearning for justice, written from the point of view of those who had been severely oppressed and deeply hurt.

gotquestions.org

Romans 12:19, 21 (NIV) Do NOT take **REVENGE**, my friends, but leave room for God's WRATH, for it is written: It is **MINE** to **Avenge**; I WILL Repay, says the Lord...

# <sup>21</sup> Do **NOT** be overcome by evil, but overcome evil WITH good.

# Betrayal ALWAYS Hurts

<sup>3</sup> For foreigners **attack me**; ruthless men, who **do not respect God**, seek **my life**.

(NET)

# <sup>4</sup> But God is MY HELPER.

### The Lord keeps me ALIVE.

(NLT)

1 Samuel 23:26-28 (NLT) Saul and David were now on opposite sides of a mountain. Just as Saul and his men began to close in on David and his men, 1 Samuel 23:26-28 (NLT)
<sup>27</sup> an urgent message reached Saul that the Philistines were raiding Israel again.
<sup>28</sup> So Saul quit chasing David and returned to fight the Philistines... Through the crucible of LAMENT, God transforms our pain into INTIMACY with Him, NOT by Erasing it, or Explaining it away, but by FULLY acknowledging its horror.

Vroegop