

**INTRODUCTION****THE ARRANGEMENT OF THE PSALTER**

Book 1: 1–41

Book 2: 42–72

Book 3: 73–89

Book 4: 90–106

Book 5: 107–150

**PSALMS 3–4 IN THE ARRANGEMENT OF THE PSALTER**

Psalm 3:

Psalm 4:

**Date of Composition****Historical Background**

David born	1041 BC
David became king over Judah in Hebron	1011 BC
Amnon born (mother = Ahinoam) in Hebron ca.	1010 BC
Absalom born (mother = Maacah) in Hebron	ca. 1008 BC
David became king over all Israel in Jerusalem	1004 BC
Birth of Solomon	990 BC
Amnon raped his half-sister, Tamar (mother = Maacah? 2 Sam 13)	987 BC
Absalom avenged Tamar by killing Amnon (2 Samuel 13:23, 28–29)	985 BC
Absalom went into exile for three years (2 Sam 13:37–38)	985–982 BC
Absalom returned to Jerusalem, avoiding David for 2 yrs (2 Sam 14:28)	982–980 BC
Absalom gained people's confidence for 4 years (2 Sam 15:7)	980–976 BC
Davidic Covenant given	979 BC
Absalom rebelled against David (2 Sam 15:13ff.); Psalm 3 written	<b>976 BC</b>
David died	971 BC

Psalms are musical poetry. Each stanza has internal movement, but stanzas are not chronological.

**Type of Psalm: Scholars call it a Lament (Complaint) = "Prayer for deliverance"**

Superscription: The bad guys are in control &amp; You are getting bad press

Vss 3–4: You are my protector, so I pray to You, confident of deliverance

Vss 5–6: I slept well &amp; am alive because of Your protection &amp; do not fear the enemies

Vss 7–8: Lord, defeat my enemies and bring deliverance to Your people

**Superscription: The bad guys are in control and You are getting bad press**

**Verse 1: Many have arisen to oppose David (the Lord's anointed)**

**Verse 2: Many say that God will not help David**

**Vss 3–4: God is David's protector, so he pray to Him, confident of deliverance**

**Verse 3: God is the One who protects and will exalt David**

**Verse 4: David knows that the Lord heard his petition and will rescue him**

**Vss 5–6: David slept well & live because of God's protection & did not fear the enemies**

**Verse 5: David slept (soundly) and awoke because the Lord protected him**

**Verse 6: David will not fear the multitudes who surround him**

**Vss 7–8: David petitioned the Lord to defeat His enemies & deliver His people**

**Verse 7: David asked the Lord to deliver him & as He always did (to crush His enemies)**

**Verse 8: It is the Lord who delivers and blesses His people**

**CONCLUSION**