



# The Shield and Salvation of Besieged Believers

*Psalm 3*

**English Services**  
(8 & 10:30 a.m., & 5:30 p.m.)

Prelude  
Call to Worship  
Worship through Praise  
Baptism (*Morning services*)  
Worship through Fellowship  
Worship through Giving  
Pastoral Prayer  
Anthem  
Scripture Reading  
Worship in the Word  
*Pastor Larry Pabiona*  
Benediction

**Filipino Service**  
(3 n.h.)

Paghahanda  
Tawag sa Pagsamba  
Pagsamba sa Pag-aawitan  
Pagkilala sa mga Bisita  
Pagsamba sa Pagbibigay  
Panalanging Pastoral  
Tanging Bilang  
Pagbasa ng Salita ng Diyos  
Pakikinig sa Salita ng Diyos  
*Pastor BJ Sebastian*  
Bendisyon

See inset inside for the **Traditional Service (Sat., 6 p.m.)** program.



**8/9 June 2019**  
Vol. 41, No. 23

# The Shield and Salvation of Besieged Believers

Today's Message (8/9 June 2019) / *Psalm 3*

WE CAN BE  
HONEST WITH  
GOD ABOUT  
THE PAIN OF  
LIFE BECAUSE  
WE KNOW  
HE LOVES US,  
WELCOMES  
HEARING OUR  
STRUGGLES  
AND CRIES, AND  
REACHES OUT  
TO US IN MERCY.

God and His love is the ultimate “safe place” of every Christian. Before God, His beloved children can express sorrow, mourning, or regret, and still find acceptance. You can lament.

Psalm 3 is the first of sixty-five lament psalms. Lament psalms are brutally honest about life in a fallen world. Some people think that if you do all the right things, God will make your life all that you want it to be. But real life indicates otherwise. And so do the lament psalms. The lament psalms reflect our pain and give us permission to grieve all that isn't right. They say, in effect, that you can grieve the darkness. Rather than being an embarrassment to Christians, these psalms represent the reality of Christian spirituality.

In this lament to God about his struggles, David gives us the freedom to express ours, and points us in the direction of healing:

1. AS A CHILD OF GOD, YOU MAY FEEL  
S\_\_\_\_\_ **SOMETIMES** (vv. 1-2)

- David felt besieged and overwhelmed. Not only were his enemies numerous, they were actively recruiting and gathering more people to rise against him (2 *Samuel 15*). You probably know how that feels.
- But the worst part was his enemies were concluding and probably proclaiming that the God he trusted in had turned against him (2 *Samuel 16:5 ff*).

2. AS A CHILD OF GOD, YOU ARE  
ACTUALLY S\_\_\_\_\_ **AT ALL TIMES** (vv. 3-4)

- Do you feel helpless against their assaults? God is your shield. Do you fear more humiliation and embarrassment at their hands? God is your glory. Have you succumbed to discouragement or despair? God is the lifter of your head.

## **Traditional Service**

(June 8, Sat., 6:00 p.m.)

Prelude

Call To Worship

Worship Through Praise

Worship Through Fellowship

Worship Through Giving

Pastoral Prayer

Preparatory Hymn

Scripture Reading

Worship in the Word

*Pastor Larry Pabiona*

Response Hymn

Benediction

# The Shield and Salvation of Besieged Believers

Today's Message (8/9 June 2019) / *Psalm 3*

- Why? How? Verse 4 says, "I cried aloud to the LORD, and He answered me." Have you prayed? If you started, have you stopped or persisted? Where else will you run? To whom else can you go?

Psalm 34:18-19 (ESV) says that "The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit. Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the LORD delivers him out of them all."

### 3. AS A CHILD OF GOD, YOU ARE ULTIMATELY S\_\_\_\_\_ AT THE RIGHT TIME (vv. 5-8)

- a. Verse 5: **God s\_\_\_\_\_ you. Rest!**

It is well said that courage is not the complete absence of fear, but proceeding despite those fears (v. 6; 2 Samuel 18).

- b. Verse 7: **God s\_\_\_\_\_ down the enemy for you. Trust!**

"Trust is not a passive state of mind. It is a vigorous act of the soul by which we choose to lay hold on the promises of God and cling to them despite the adversity that at times seeks to overwhelm us."—Jerry Bridges

- c. Verse 8: **God s\_\_\_\_\_ you ultimately as you keep praying. Verify your standing with God.**

All Scripture point to Christ. Psalm 3 reminds us that we need a Savior. What David sought in his lament was answered in Jesus, who came to rescue and restore the broken. He came to fulfill the deepest cries of our heart. When it seems like darkness is your only friend, remember Jesus Christ, who faced the darkness of the grave so that you could be called a friend of God.

### FINAL THOUGHTS

Laments are always expressed in the context of faith and trust in God. In a lament, we never let go of our faith. We believe we can be honest with God about the pain of life because we know He loves us, welcomes hearing our struggles and cries, and reaches out to us in mercy.

God welcomes our candor, frankness, and honesty so He can minister to us. We can afford to be honest about such struggles because we know God loves us through Christ, and we love Him in Christ. Through Christ you can face pain and oppression, and not just survive, but thrive. He is the shield and salvation of besieged believers ■

Another blessed weekend, GCF family! The Lord has been gracious to us through several recently-concluded major ministry efforts:

## DAILY VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

This year's DVBS was held last May 27 to June 1. Let us thank God for the children who spent the entire week learning together about Jesus, the teachers who went through several trainings in preparation for each day, and the parents who committed to ensuring that their kids were brought and fetched each day. The Children's Ministry needs our prayers, as they continue to take the lead in teaching and modeling discipleship in the home—by each parent, for each child.

## HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE CAMPS

This year's Youth Camps were held on May 30 to June 2 (High School) and June 5 to 8 (College). Let us thank God for the leadership and planning teams behind these camps, the camp counselors who will continue to disciple these campers even after the four-day, three-night trips to the venues, and the support of the parents who allowed their adolescent children to be part of the Youth L.I.V.E. family! The Youth

Ministry needs our prayers because what follows is the greater task and privilege of continued life-on-life discipleship of these campers.

## ORMOC MEDICAL MISSION

This is the most recent Medical Mission of the Operation Compassion team. The Missional-Disciple-Making (MDM) ministry will surely share more in the coming weeks, but even now let us thank God for the team of doctors, nurses, and other ministry servants who took on this very specific assignment! May the Lord continue to open doors of medical mission efforts that the GCF community can engage in.

## A SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

We are all invited to **Think Right! Seeing Christ Above the Gods of Today**. Keynote speakers are authors Pat Zukeran of Evidence and Answers Ministry and Greg Koukl of Stand to Reason ministry. This is an apologetics conference that will be held on July 12 (Friday, 6-9 p.m.) and 13 (Saturday at 8 a.m.-3 p.m.). Registration is free. To register, please visit the Ministry Information Booth every Sunday or text **0932 371 3457**. Please take note that this is different from our regular apologetics class taught by Pastor BJ Sebastian, which resumes June 9 at 9:30 a.m. ■

# Ministry Opportunities + Announcements



## MEN'S BREAKTHROUGH WEEKEND

*Break free from hurts, hang-ups and bad habits*

June 15 and 16 (Sat-Sun) at CCT Tagaytay

Fee: P1,000 | For more details, visit the info booth or contact 0917 532 1921.



## ROOTED IN GOD'S LOVE

*Joy Women's Fellowship*

June 18 (Tues), 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon

at the Fellowship Hall

Speaker: Hon. Maria Lourdes Sereno

For more details, visit the info booth.



## WIDOWS: PRECIOUS IN GOD'S SIGHT (WIDOW'S RALLY)

*Naomi Women's Ministry celebrates*

*International Widows Day*

Speaker: Helene Fischer (Open Doors Int'l.)

June 22 (Sat), 8:30 a.m. at the Fellowship Hall

For more details, contact 0917 532 1921.



## JOY OF MOTHERHOOD AS SUPAMOMS

Speaker: Emma Yujico

June 22 (Sat), 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the

Youth Center | For more details, contact 0917 532 1921.



## THINK RIGHT! SEEING CHRIST ABOVE THE GODS OF TODAY

*Apologetics Conference with Pat Zukeran and Greg Koukl*

July 12 (Fri, 6-9 p.m.) & 13 (Sat, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.)

Topics include worldviews, Jesus as apologist, faith and relativism, and many more

Registration is free; sign-up at the info booth.

For more details, contact 0932 371 3457.

*The flowers this week are given with praise and thanksgiving to God by the Basilad family. Please call 632 1354 to 56 for inquiries on how to participate in this ministry.*

## Join a DISCIPLE-MAKING GROUP

### Growth Group Express

*Mixed group led by Ptr. Emer Manaloto*

Sundays, 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Rm. B124

### GGEx Extreme

*Choose any group: Women, Men, Young Men, Youth*

Sundays, 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Fellowship Hall

### Burning Hearts-Chronicles GG

*For couples*

Sundays, 9:30-11:00 a.m.

Rm. B123

### God's Grace GG (G4)

*Group for couples*

Fridays, 7:30-10:00 p.m.

Rm. B124

### Best Together in Christ

*Group for couples*

Sundays, 9:30-11:00 a.m.

Rm. B508

*If you are interested in joining any of the small groups above, fill out the tear-off form of this bulletin, drop it in the offering bag, or submit it at the Growth Group booth at the lobby. For more information, you can text or call us at 0932 282 2290.*

### Oikos Bible Study (OBS) Training

Learn how to facilitate inductive Bible studies at your home or office on June 30, July 7, 14, 21, 28, August 4 and 11 (Suns), 9:30-10:30 a.m. at the Fellowship Hall.

## STEWARDSHIP REPORT / June 2019

JUNE	Projected	Rcvd., June 1-4	YEAR-TO-DATE	Projected	Rcvd., as of June 4
General Funds	7,311,261	2,311,620	General Funds	48,655,827	44,576,682
Mission Support Fund	1,317,698	380,999	Mission Support Fund	7,906,187	5,793,370
Others (Designated, etc.)	717,488	38,360	Others (Designated, etc.)	7,190,106	6,050,674
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9,346,447</b>	<b>2,730,979</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>63,752,120</b>	<b>56,420,727</b>



*For I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last he will stand upon the earth. And after my skin has been thus destroyed, yet in my flesh I shall see God.*

— Job 19:25-26 (ESV)

Who are redeemed by the love of God are reminded of His work in the beginning. All six days He created. And all six days culminated to a day of rest.

A day also came when we chose to work the days on our own, selfishly defining what is good. We rebelled from the One who alone is good, failed to trust what He said would be for our good, and so we reaped toil and hardship for our work. It seemed that what once were days that point to rest now point to restlessness and pain.

But God is always at work. Despite the cursed ground, and the pain to every birthing, He is always at work to show His love for us.

The powerful God moved in with us in weakness. The One who once walked with man in the Garden laid His feet on the ground that is cursed. The Creator chose to be

creative, from His greatness He chose smallness, becoming an infant. The independent and self-sufficient became dependent on human breasts.

Today, take time to appreciate. First, the God who created the world, in all its beauty and richness, giving strength to man to toil, giving grace to make the sun shine and the rain fall on both the good and the evil, and giving the blessing of fruitfulness in spite of the cursedness of the ground. Second, appreciate the wonderful truth that God came down and took on human flesh, sharing in and bearing our toil and pain. As the creative God, He has also transformed our toil into service, our pain into healing.

*Let us open our tired hands and restless hearts so that we may receive rest that He alone can give and create.*

May this day be a celebration of the reality of Christ's lordship over our work and our sabbath. May we also see it as an invitation to continually receive His redeeming love. Let us open our tired hands and restless hearts so that we may receive rest that He alone can give and create ■

## PRAYER at the Chapel

**The GCF Hour of Prayer**  
Tuesdays, 6-7 a.m.

**Midweek Prayer Service**  
Wednesdays, 7-8:30 p.m.

**Weeknight Prayer Gatherings**  
Except Wednesdays, 7-8 p.m.

**ON THE COVER:** *Jerusalem from the Mount of Olives* by the American painter Frederic Edwin Church (public domain, from Wikimedia). To flee from his treasonous son Absalom and his supporters, David went with some of his people to the Mount of Olives (2. Sam. 15).



## Greenhills Christian Fellowship

Know Christ and Make Him Known

Ruby cor. Garnet Roads, Ortigas Center, Pasig City 1605  
Tel. Nos. 632 1354 to 56, 635 0078 to 80, 635 0082 to 83 | Fax No. 632 1357  
Mobile No. 0920 961 2964, Mon.-Fri., 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.  
E-mail: email@gcf.org.ph • Website: www.gcf.org.ph

# How may we SERVE YOU BETTER?

Fill-out this tear off form and drop it in an offering bag/box or at the Ministry Information Booth. Please check all that is applicable:

- I am a first-time guest.
- I prayed to receive Jesus Christ as my Savior and Lord today.
- I would like to know how to become a Christian.
- I am interested in becoming a member of this church.
- I want to join a Growth Group.**  
(Specify age group: \_\_\_\_\_)  
(Specify group composition: \_\_\_\_\_)
- I want to start a Growth Group.
- I want to host a Growth Group.

Please share with us some information about yourself:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_ Landline no.: \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile no.: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Year of membership: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Growth Group (if you already have one): \_\_\_\_\_

*Today is 8/9 June 2019, and I attended the 8 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 3:00 p.m., 5:30 p.m. or 6:00 p.m. (Sat) (encircle the time).*

Write below *any* inquiry or prayer item that you want to ask or share.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# God's Way to Heaven

## THE GOSPEL

"Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures."  
*(1 Corinthians 15:3-4).*

## THE TRUTH ABOUT GOD

**God is holy and righteous:** "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty, the whole earth is full of his glory" (*Isaiah 6:3*). **He requires holiness of us as well:** "Be holy, for I am holy" (*1 Peter 1:16*).

## THE TRUTH ABOUT MAN

**Man is sinful:** "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (*Romans 3:23*).  
**Sin demands a penalty:** "For the wages of sin is death" (*Romans 6:23*).

## THE TRUTH ABOUT CHRIST

**Christ is the expression of God's love for us:** "God demonstrates his own love for us in this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us" (*Romans 5:8*). **Christ paid the penalty of our sins and died for sinners:** "For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God" (*1 Peter 3:18*). **Through Christ, God offers man reconciliation:** "God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them" (*2 Corinthians 5:18*).

## WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

**Believe and receive Jesus as Lord and Savior:** "If you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved" (*Romans 10:9*).

\_\_\_\_\_  
**PRAYER:** *Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner. I believe that you died on the cross in my place, to save me from my sins, and I accept you as my Savior, and the Master of my life forever. Amen.*

## Need someone to talk to?

Visit the Emmaus Road Counseling Center at the GCF Mezzanine floor or contact 632 1354 to 56, 635 0078 to 80 or 0917 532 7794 for inquiries.

For hospital or house visitation, dedication service, or funeral service requests, please call or text 0917 532 7794.