Psalm 7

"A Prayer for Deliverance From and Vindication Concerning Enemies"

A Shiggaion ² of David, which he sang to the LORD concerning Cush, ³ a Benjamite.

A1 DAVID'S PRAYER FOR DELIVERANCE FROM HIS PURSUERS 7:1-2

B1 His Plea for Salvation 7:1

C1 Acknowledgement of Refuge:  {1} O Lord my God, in You I have taken refuge;

C2 Plea for Rescue: Save me from all those who pursue me, and deliver me, 7:1

B2 His Fear if Undelivered 7:2

C1 Lion-like Attack:  {2} Or he will tear my soul like a lion,

C2 Brutal Force: Dragging me away, while there is none to deliver. 7:2

A2 DAVID'S PRAYER THAT GOD MIGHT JUDGE HIM IF HE HAS BEEN UNJUST 7:3-5

B1 His Contemplation of His Own Hypothetical Guilt 7:3-4

C1 Injustice 7:3

D1 Hypothetical consideration:  {3} O LORD my God, if I have done this,

D2 Personal injustice: If there is injustice in my hands,

C2 Wronging of the Innocent 7:4

D1 Deliberate friendly fire:  {4} If I have rewarded evil to my friend,

D2 Unprovoked plunder: Or have plundered him who without cause was my adversary,

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¹ Psalm 7. An individual lament psalm (Ryrie Study Bible).

² Superscription - Shiggaion: "shiggaion” (7692) may mean a poem written with intense feeling." (Allen P. Ross, The Bible Knowledge Commentary [TBKC].)

³ Psalm 7 Superscription - Cush: "The superscription refers to David’s experience with "Cush, a Benjamite,” referred to only here in the Bible. The song comes from a time David was hunted by Saul’s men (1 Sam. 22:8; 24:9; 26:19)" (Allen P. Ross, TBKC).
B2  His Request for Appropriate Judgment  7:5
   C1  Enemy Pursuit:  {5} Let the enemy pursue my soul and overtake it;
   C2  Enemy Conquest: And let him trample my life down to the ground
   C3  Ultimate Humiliation: And lay my glory in the dust.

A3  DAVID'S PLEA FOR VINDICATION OF THE RIGHTEOUS AND JUDGMENT OF THE WICKED  7:6-16

B1  His Plea for Vindication  7:6-10
   C1  Against His Adversaries  7:6
      D1  Reciprocal emotional intensity
         E1  Divine anger:  {6} Arise, O LORD, in Your anger;
         E2  Against adversarial rage: Lift up Yourself against the rage of my adversaries,
      D2  Aroused justice
         E1  Divine arousal: And arouse Yourself for me;
         E2  Appointed justice: You have appointed judgment.
   C2  In the Sight of His People  7:7
      D1  Witnessed by Israel:  {7} Let the assembly of the peoples encompass You,
      D2  Mission accomplished: And over them return on high.
   C3  Personally, on His Behalf  7:8
      D1  Yahweh as judge of all nations:  {8} The LORD judges the peoples;
      D2  Yahweh as his personal vindicator: Vindicate me, O LORD, according to my righteousness and my integrity that is in me.
   C4  By Terminating the Wicked While Establishing the Righteous  7:9
      D1  Terminating evil:  {9} O let the evil of the wicked come to an end,
      D2  Establishing the righteous
         E1  but establish the righteous;
         E2  For the righteous God tries the hearts and minds.
C5  David's Trust in Elohim  7:10
   D1  As shield:  \{10\} My shield is with God,
   D2  As savior of the upright:  Who saves the upright in heart.

B2  His Warning of Judgment  7:11-16

C1  The Righteousness of Elohim  7:11
   D1  His equity:  \{11\} God is a righteous judge,
   D2  His consequent ceaseless anger at sin:  And a God who has indignation every day.

C2  The Warning to the Unrepentant  7:12-13
   D1  The potential of unrepentance:  \{12\} If a man does not repent,  7:12a
   D2  The weapons at God's disposal  7:12b-13
      E1  Sword;  He will sharpen His sword;  7:12b
      E2  Bow:  He has bent His bow and made it ready.
      E3  Deadly weapons:  \{13\} He has also prepared for Himself deadly weapons;  7:13a
      E4  Fiery arrows:  He makes His arrows fiery shafts.  7:13b

C3  The Character of the Wicked  7:14
   D1  In labor with evil:  \{14\} Behold, he travails with wickedness,
   D2  Conceiving mischief;  And he conceives mischief
   D3  Giving birth to lies:  and brings forth falsehood.

C4  The Fate of the Wicked:  His own wickedness will return to haunt him  4  7:15-16
   D1  Falling in his own pit  7:15
      E1  Digging a pit:  \{15\} He has dug a pit and hollowed it out,
      E2  Falling into his own hole:  And has fallen into the hole which he made.

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4 Psalm 7:15-16 - haunt him:  In today's vernacular, "What goes around, comes around."
D2   Evil returning to his own head  7:16

E1 Boomeranging mischief:  \( \{16\} \) His mischief will return upon his own head,

E2 Boomeranging violence: And his violence will descend upon his own pate.

A4 DAVID'S VOW OF PRAISE  7:17

B1 Thanks for Yahweh's Character:  \( \{17\} \) I will give thanks to the LORD according to His righteousness

B2 Praise of Yahweh's Name: And will sing praise to the name of the LORD Most High.