Psalm 35

Judica, Domine
tone I1

PLEAD thou my cause, O Lord, with them that strive with me: and fight thou

against them that fight against me. 2. Lay hand up-on the shield and

buckler: and stand up to help me. 3. Bring forth the spear, and stop the way

against them that persecute me: say unto my soul, I am thy salva-tion.

4. Let them be confounded and put to shame, that seek after my soul: let them

be turned back and brought to confusion, that imagine mischief for me. 5. Let

them be as the dust before the wind: and the angel of the Lord scatter-ing

them. 6. Let their way be dark and slip-per-y: and let the angel of the Lord

perse-cute them. 7. For they have privi-ly laid their net to destroy me without

a cause: yea, even without a cause have they made a pit for my soul. 8. Let a

sudden destruction come upon him unawares, and his net, that he hath

laid privi-ly, catch himself: that he may fall into his own mischief. 9. And, my

soul, be joyful in the Lord: it shall rejoice in his salva-tion. 10. All my bones
shall say, 'LORD, who is like unto thee, who deliverest the poor from him that is too strong for him; yea, the poor, and him that is in misery, from him that spoileth him?' False witnesses did rise up: they laid to my charge things that I knew not. They rewarded me evil for good: to the great discomfort of my soul. Nevertheless, when they were sick, I put on sackcloth, and humbled my soul with fasting: and my prayer shall turn into mine own bosom. I behaved myself as though it had been my friend or my brother: I went heavily, as one that mourneth for his mother. But in mine adversity they rejoiced, and gathered themselves together: yea, the very objects came together against me unawares, making mouths at me, and ceased not. With the flatters were busy mockers: who gnashed upon me with their teeth. Lord, how long wilt thou look upon this? O deliver my soul from the calamities which they bring on me, and my darling from the lions. So will I give thee thanks in the great congregation: I will praise thee among much people. O let not them that are mine enemies triumph over me ungodly: neither let them wink with their eyes that hate me without a cause. And why? their communing is not for peace: but they imagine deceitful words against them that are quiet in the land. They gaped upon me with their mouths, and said: Fie on thee, fie on thee, we saw it with our eyes. This thou hast seen, O LORD: hold not thy tongue then, go not far from me, O LORD. Awake, and stand up to judge my quarrel: avenge thou my cause, my God, and my Lord. Judge me, O LORD my God, according to thy righteousness: and let them not triumph over me. Let them not say in their hearts, There is none: let them be put to confusion and shame together, that rejoice at my trouble: let them be clothed with rebuke and dishonour, that boast themselves against me.