

THE BOOK OF

PSALMS

# Psalm 7

# What Is Shiggaion



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## **Shiggaion**

**Smith's Bible Dictionary:** perhaps a "wild, mournful poem meant to be sung."

**Hitchcock Dictionary:** a song of trouble or comfort

**Easton's Bible Dictionary:** denotes a lyrical poem composed under strong mental emotion; a song of impassioned imagination accompanied with suitable music

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**Who is Cush, the Benjamite**



Not to be confused with the much earlier man of that name who was one of the sons of Noah's son Ham (Genesis 10:6).

There is speculation that he was a follower of Saul in the long conflict of Saul and his descendants with David (1 Samuel 18 - 2 Samuel 4)

Saul was also a Benjamite (1 Samuel 9:1-2). Cush had thus made David his enemy, and had possibly also unjustly accused David of wrongdoing in connection with taking Saul's place as king.

The KJV translates the Hebrew word “kush” into Ethiopia (19x), Cush (8x), Ethiopians (3x)

The word Cush means “black”

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We know little else about the man “Cush” in Psalm 7. It is likely that he was a man of very dark skin, from the tribe of Benjamin who was guilty of slandering David. Thus David pens the psalm “concerning the **words** of Cush the Benjamite.”

## **The Bible and Slander**

**Slander is a serious sin. Like its cousin gossip, slander is incredibly destructive.**

**Prov. 12:6**

**Prov. 11:9**

**Prov. 16:28**

**But while both gossip and slander involve destructive speech, slander adds the additional element of dishonesty.**

## **David Passionately Pleas for Gods Attention to the matter (1-2)**

**O LORD my God, in thee do I put my trust:  
save me from all them that persecute me,  
and deliver me:**

**<sup>2</sup> Lest he tear my soul like a lion, rending it  
in pieces, while there is none to deliver.**

# David is willing to accept punishment if guilty of what has been said (3-5)

<sup>3</sup> O LORD my God, If I have done this; if there  
be iniquity in my hands;

<sup>4</sup> If I have rewarded evil unto him that was  
at peace with me; (yea, I have delivered him  
that without cause is mine enemy:)

<sup>5</sup> Let the enemy persecute my soul, and take  
it; yea, let him tread down my life upon the  
earth, and lay mine honour in the dust.  
Selah.

## David appeals to God for His justice (6-16)

<sup>6</sup> Arise, O LORD, in thine anger, lift up thyself because of the rage of mine enemies: and awake for me to the judgment that thou hast commanded.

<sup>7</sup> So shall the congregation of the people compass thee about: for their sakes therefore return thou on high.

<sup>8</sup> The LORD shall judge the people: judge me, O LORD, according to my righteousness, and according to mine integrity that is in me.

<sup>9</sup> Oh let the wickedness of the wicked come to an end; but establish the just: for the righteous God trieth the hearts and reins.

**10 My defence is of God, which saveth the upright in heart.**

**11 God judgeth the righteous, and God is angry with the wicked every day.**

**12 If he turn not, he will whet his sword; he hath bent his bow, and made it ready.**

**13 He hath also prepared for him the instruments of death; he ordaineth his arrows against the persecutors.**

**14 Behold, he travaileth with iniquity, and hath conceived mischief, and brought forth falsehood.**

**15 He made a pit, and digged it, and is fallen into the ditch which he made.**

**16 His mischief shall return upon his own head, and his violent dealing shall come down upon his own pate.**

## **David's Posture as he waits for God's final verdict (17)**

**17 I will praise the LORD according to his righteousness: and will sing praise to the name of the LORD most high.**