Holy hill in Psalms 3 In psalms 3, which hill is the holy hill?

In **Psalm 3**, the "**holy hill**" is **Zion / Jerusalem — the hill where God set His name and where the tabernacle (and later the temple) is associated**, meaning **the place of God's throne-presence among His people**.

Why that's the best fit (from the Psalm itself)

David says:

- "**I cried unto the LORD with my voice, and he heard me out of his holy hill.**" (Psalm 3:4, KJV)

So the "holy hill" is **God's hill** (His dwelling/seat), not merely "a safe hill" for David.

How it fits the Psalm's setting

Psalm 3 is tied to David fleeing **Absalom** (see the heading), so David is **away from Jerusalem**—yet he says God still hears him "out of" that holy hill, meaning:

- David's confidence is anchored in **God's established dwelling/place of kingship**, even while David is displaced.

✅ **Answer: Zion (Jerusalem / the temple mount area), God's holy hill.**

When Melchizedek came "down" to meet Abraham, was that the hill Jerusalem is on?

Most likely: yes — the meeting is traditionally associated with the Jerusalem region — but the text does *not* explicitly say it was on that specific hill.

What the Bible actually says

Genesis 14 says Abram returned and:

- the king of Sodom went out to meet him **"at the valley of Shaveh"** (Genesis 14:17)
- then **Melchizedek king of Salem** brought bread and wine and blessed him (Genesis 14:18–20)

So the meeting location given is a **valley** ("Shaveh"), not a hill.

Why people connect it to Jerusalem (Zion)

Melchizedek is called **"king of Salem"** (Genesis 14:18).
"Salem" has been understood (very early and very commonly) as **Jerusalem** (or its earlier name/region).
That makes the meeting **in the Jerusalem area** very plausible.

Also, the later Bible links God's "Salem / Zion" language:

- "**In Salem also is his tabernacle, and his dwelling place in Zion.**" (Psalm 76:2, KJV)

So the **theological rope** is strong: **Salem ↔ Zion/Jerusalem**.

But "came down" doesn't prove it was Zion hill

Even if Melchizedek was based in Jerusalem, "came down" could simply mean:

- **came out to meet him**
- **descended from a higher city area to a valley**
- or just a narrative "down/out" movement

✅ **Solid conclusion:** The encounter is best placed **in the Jerusalem/Salem vicinity**, **but Scripture doesn't directly state it happened on the Zion hill itself**.

Is David referring to being in a valley and inviting the YHWH to come down to him? David often refers to himself in a valley it seems, and "inclined" to YHWH.

Great question—and you're seeing a real biblical *pattern*, but in **Psalm 3** David is **not** inviting YHWH to "come down" from Zion *to his physical location* the way we might picture it.

1) Psalm 3:4 is "God heard me *out of* His holy hill"

"He heard me **out of** his holy hill." (Ps 3:4)

That phrase is doing **throne-language**, not geography-language.

Meaning:
David is saying, *"God answered from His established place of kingship."*
Not, *"God climbed down the hill to reach me."*

2) David's "low place" language is usually humility + distress

You're right that David often places himself "low" in tone:

- afflicted / cast down
- in danger / surrounded
- "bowed down" in grief
- needing God to "incline" (lean close)

This isn't always a literal valley—often it's the **valley-condition**: *weakness, threat, pressure, exile, depression, shame.*

3) "Incline" is the key bridge

When David says God "inclined" (or "bowed down His ear"), the idea is:

God condescends in mercy
—not by changing address, but by **paying attention** and **acting**.

So your instinct is solid:
David in the "low place" + God "inclines" = covenant rescue pattern.

4) The Psalm 3 move is: Zion-throne confidence while displaced

Psalm 3 is basically:

- "I'm surrounded."

- “But You, LORD, are my shield.”
- “You answered me from Your holy hill.”
- “Therefore I can lie down and sleep.”

So Zion becomes his **anchor point**:
even if David is not on the hill, *God’s kingship hasn’t moved.*

✅ **Bottom line:**
In Psalm 3, David isn’t asking God to *come down physically* from Zion—he’s claiming that **even from the holy hill (God’s throne-place), YHWH hears and intervenes for the one who is “low.”**