

**Psalms 41:0 ¶ To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David.**

Another psalm that David sent to the Head Musician for use at the tabernacle.

**Psalms 41:1 ¶ Blessed is he that considereth the poor: the LORD will deliver him in time of trouble.**

**Psalms 41:2 The LORD will preserve him, and keep him alive; and he shall be blessed upon the earth: and thou wilt not deliver him unto the will of his enemies.**

**Psalms 41:3 The LORD will strengthen him upon the bed of languishing: thou wilt make all his bed in his sickness.**

David declares that happy is the man that teaches and helps (from Hebrew for “considereth”) those that are in need because the LORD will take care of him in return. He will protect that man from his enemies and strengthen him when he is sick.

In context, it would seem that David is taking comfort from the knowledge that he had done much to help the needy.

David taught his son Solomon this truth, and told him that to help the poor was to serve the LORD.

*Proverbs 19:17 “He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the LORD; and that which he hath given will he pay him again.”*

I liked this quote Guzik used from Kidner: “Implies giving careful thought to this person’s situation, rather than perfunctory help.”

And from Spurgeon: “The promise is not that the generous saint shall have no trouble, but that he shall be preserved in it, and in due time brought out of it. How true was this of our Lord! never trouble deeper nor triumph brighter than his, and glory be to his name, he secures the ultimate victory of all his blood bought ones.”

**Psalms 41:4 I said, LORD, be merciful unto me: heal my soul; for I have sinned against thee.**

David asks the LORD for mercy and healing for his soul while admitting that he has sinned. He is essentially repenting of his sin.

I liked the way Guzik stated it: “...A confession without excuse, a confession without qualification, a confession without superficiality.”

**Psalms 41:5 ¶ Mine enemies speak evil of me, When shall he die, and his name perish?**

**Psalms 41:6 And if he come to see me, he speaketh vanity: his heart gathereth iniquity to itself; when he goeth abroad, he telleth it.**

**Psalms 41:7 All that hate me whisper together against me: against me do they devise my hurt.**

**Psalms 41:8 An evil disease, say they, cleaveth fast unto him: and now that he lieth he shall rise up no more.**

It seems that David was suffering physically as a result of that sin as well, fueling hope among his enemies that it might lead to his death. After coming to visit him, supposedly as friends, they promptly go out and spread gossip that he is dying, hoping to cause him harm.

**Psalms 41:9 Yea, mine own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, which did eat of my bread, hath lifted up *his* heel against me.**

Even one of David's closest friends had turned against him.

Jesus quoted from this psalm when telling his disciples that one of them would betray Him.

*John 13:18 "I speak not of you all: I know whom I have chosen: but that the scripture may be fulfilled, He that eateth bread with me hath lifted up his heel against me."*

This is one of those verses that reminds me that all scripture is a part of the whole in telling the story of Jesus, just as He told the two men on the road to Emmaus after his resurrection.

*Luke 24:27 & 44 "And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself.... And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me."*

**Psalms 41:10 But thou, O LORD, be merciful unto me, and raise me up, that I may requite them.**

**Psalms 41:11 By this I know that thou favourest me, because mine enemy doth not triumph over me.**

David asks the LORD to show him mercy and heal him to prove them wrong. He would then know that God still favored him.

**Psalms 41:12 And as for me, thou upholdest me in mine integrity, and settest me before thy face for ever.**

**Psalms 41:13 Blessed be the LORD God of Israel from everlasting, and to everlasting. Amen, and Amen.**

David believed that the LORD answered his prayer because of his honesty and transparency before Him, and he expects to enjoy His presence forever. For that he praises the LORD God of Israel, calling for him to be adored forever.