**Psalm Chapter 141 - Review**

In chapter 141, part 1, we learned this was another Psalm written by David and the subject/title of it was "***Prayer and Praise***" because it's another *prayer for deliverance from the evil*, i.e. wicked men in the world. However, it's *also* a prayer for deliverance from 'self', i.e. our *carnal* mind (Rom 8:5-8), which is the part of us that *wants* to sin. And David began the prayer by asking the Lord (YHVH) to 'hurry' to hear his *earnest* prayer *and* that it would be *pleasing* to our Heavenly Father. So, David was clearly in an *urgent* situation and/or, in a *very* trying time in his life. Yet, David *knew* the Lord (YHVH) was the *only* one who could help him, which is *why* he called upon our Heavenly Father by using His Sacred, and 'covenantal' name, *Yehovah* (Ps 55:16). And then David (wisely) began to ask for protection from sins that could prevent the Lord (YHVH) from helping him. That's why he asked the Lord (YHVH) would guard his speech *and* language, which meant to help him be careful *what* he said, and also *how* he said it. For David well knew that, "*Whoso keepeth his mouth <u>and</u> his tongue <u>keepeth his soul from troubles</u>*" (Prov 21:23). And this, without a doubt, is a good thing for us to pray (daily) for too.

And then David asked for the Lord (YHVH) *not* to let his spiritual heart (feelings, emotions, desires, intentions and motivations) turn towards doing any 'thing' (or word, matter, cause) that was 'evil' (i.e. injurious to others). And he asked that because he did <u>not</u> want to partake in ungodly actions (*that harm others)*, especially because of influence from men who were *wise to do evil* because they were *controlled* by the 'lusts of the flesh' (Gal 5:19-21). And he also asked "*let me not eat of their dainties*", which means (on the deeper level) partaking in ***ill****-gotten* gain *which comes from* covetousness, i.e. idolatry (Col 3:5). So, David also didn't want to lust after the 'things of this world' (such as money, etc.) as we are warned against too (1 John 2:15-17). As Peter taught us, we *should* live our life *to serve the Lord* (YHVH) and *not* our 'lusts' (1 Peter 4:2). And so, this is also a *very* good thing for *us* to ask our Heavenly Father for help with, *because* it **is** a temptation to *all* who are in a flesh body (1 Cor 10:13). And, as Paul pointed out (in 1 Cor 10:13) our Heavenly Father will *always* help us in all our temptations (and trials) *so long as* we're trying to obey Him, *earnestly*.

And then David spoke of the *blessings* that comes from other believers 'edifying' us. For, even if a fellow believer would 'smite' him, he would consider it a kindness *because* they were doing it *to help him*. So, reproval (i.e. correction) from those who are righteous (obey God's Word the best they can, from the heart) **is** a *blessing* (kindness) which David likened to oil upon his head (hair). And truly, God's Word (the truth, John 17:17) being 'poured out' upon our head (*mind*) will <u>not</u> 'break' (dissuade, deter, or discourage) us from obeying God. In fact, it will only *help us* to obey the Lord (YHVH) *better*! And then David said that, when a righteous man reproved (corrected) him – even to the point of smiting *his heart* with *deep* conviction (with God's Word, which is a *sharp* sword, Eph 6:17) – he would consider it a kind thing for them to do to him. And, in return, he would pray for them (via intercessory prayer) when 'calamities' (bad or evil

things) happened to them. And we too *should* pray for fellow believers (Col 1:9; 1 Thess 5:17; 1 Thess 5:25; 2 Thess 3:1; Heb 13:18), *especially* those who *love us enough* to correct us (reprove) when we really need it. And this shows us *how much* David desired to do *what's right*. For he not only asked the Lord (YHVH) to help, and protect, him against unwise (or sinful) words, the temptation to sin, the influence of ungodly people, and the lures of worldly pleasure but, he *also* recognized that sometimes God's help (and correction, Heb 12) comes from other believers too. And he certainly was open to that, as we should be as well. And we should *always* be grateful for *godly* correction because it truly is a 'kindness' (doing us a favor).

In part 2 we learned how David was confident that, when the 'judges' (i.e. unrighteous rulers, likely those involved in Absalom's rebellion) were 'overthrown in stony places' (i.e. violently), then the people (likely Israel) would then hear (pay attention to) David's 'sweet' (agreeable) words (what he said). So, David was sure Israel would 'return to their senses' when the leader of their rebellion (Absalom) was 'put down' and then would *want* to hear David's sayings (such as his Psalms) again – for David *was* a prophet and *often* spoke *by inspiration of* the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:29-30). So, David expected (trusted) that 'time' *would* prove his message (and faith in God) to be correct. And then he went on to speak (even prophesy) of what would happen *when* the unrighteous rulers were overthrown through violent means. For, just as pieces of wood are scattered when someone cuts down a tree and then chops it up, to too was he confident their bones would be scattered upon the earth, left to decompose instead of being properly buried (i.e. they would die a very *dishonorable* death).

And then David professed how his 'eyes' (heart and mind) were *always* upon the Lord (YHVH) for he *trusted* that God would not leave his 'soul' destitute. And we learned that being 'destitute' (bare) was likely two-fold. For, in a physical sense he was asking the Lord (YHVH) wouldn't leave him poor or impoverished. But he was also asking the Lord (YHVH) wouldn't leave his *soul* (inner man) 'destitute' (bare) by *not* comforting *and* helping him. And truly the spiritual aspect was most important; for, while David surely enjoyed the physical wealth God blessed him with (and probably hoped he would regain them), what he valued *most* was his *good* relationship with the Lord (YHVH). And that's why he earnestly sought the Lord's comfort, protection and guidance through all of the hard times in his life. And then we learned how David asked the Lord (YHVH) to protect (and guard) him from all the 'traps' (snares and gins) the workers of iniquity (those who were ungodly and didn't care at all about obeying God). And this is also a wise thing for us to ask the Lord (YHVH) from. And, if we do keep our 'eyes' (heart and mind) upon our Heavenly Father (and His Word) then He will, not only protect us against the traps (spiritual and physical) the wicked people lay for us, but He will also help us to learn how to *avoid* many of their traps too!

And then we learned how David asked the Lord (YHVH) that the wicked (ungodly, lawless people) would fall into *their own* nets (wicked devices and words) that they laid for David, while

he would pass over safely, and *not* be ensnared by any of their 'traps'. And we learned that, when we keep our heart, and mind, *firmly* on God's Word (and trust in it, *wholeheartedly*) we will safely 'cross over' the spiritual (or physical) traps the ungodly (wicked) people set for *us* too. And then we 'revisited' the promise that the Psalms (yea, all of God's Word) repeatedly promises us, i.e. the ungodly *will* end up 'falling' into their own traps they set for the godly. So, once again, we saw the 'timeless truth' that ***the wicked will be 'brought down' by their own wicked words and works*** (Ps 5:10, Ps 7:14-17, Ps 9:15, Ps 10:2, 18:25-26, Ps 34:21, Ps 35:4-8, Ps 37:14-15, Ps 57:6, Psalm 64:1-10, Ps 69:22, Ps 140:4-5, Prov 1:29-31, 11:5-6, Jer 23:11-12, Mth 21:28-44, Rev 3:10, 18:6). And this is *very* important for us to *remember* too, because many Christians today get *very* upset (even angry and/or depressed) when they see wicked people seemingly 'get ahead' in life. But, as the Word of God tells us (*especially* Psalms 37), we must *not* let that upset us, or get terribly angry about – especially to the point that we end up doing evil ourselves. For God's Word has *repeatedly* assured that (short of sincere repentance) the wicked of this earth *will* be convicted, and die, *by their own sword* - which is to say, by the weapons *of their own devising*, which includes the lies, deception and decrees *coming out of their mouths*.

And when our Heavenly Father fully brings this to pass (at Jesus' return), it *will* bring *great* fear upon those who hate Him (Isa 2:17-22; Rev 6:15-17, etc.) while those who love Him will rejoice in His long-promised *justice*! So, because all people be judged (and 'rewarded') by the 'fruit of our own doings' (i.e. what we have done, and said, in life, Mth 12:36-37), we should be all the more careful to strive to do what's right (obey God's Word) from the heart! "*For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad*" (2 Cor 5:10). For our Heavenly Father **will** "*render to every man according to his deeds*" (Rom 2:2-11) because He is *not* partial in judgment (Deut 1:17, Acts 10:34, Rom 2:11, 1 Pt 1:17, John 12:46-48, Col 3:24-25) …

*7 Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for* ***whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap****.*
*8 For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh* ***reap corruption****; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit* ***reap life everlasting****.*
*9 And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap,* ***if*** *we faint not.*
*10 As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.*
Gal 6:7-10

AMEN.