

PSALM 141 – Prayer for Safekeeping from Wickedness!

12/18/21 – Sat. Morn. Prayer - P. Twente, 714 425-9221; ptwente@gmail.com www.ptwente.com

PSALM 5! – Terry Clark (4:04)

*Give ear to my words, O LORD, consider my meditation.
Hearken unto the voice of my cry, my King, and my God: for unto thee will I pray.
My voice shalt thou hear in the morning,
O LORD; in the morning will I direct my prayer unto thee, and will look up. (3x)*

Psalm 141 is another psalm of David. It is basically a prayer for God’s help from the enemies of David, which he had many. The prayer is for deliverance from the evil man and preservation from the violent man and to not be drawn into their wicked plans. It begins with being lighted up with the evening glow as the incense rises to heaven. Then comes a night of language whose meaning we cannot see. This then gives place to morning light in which our eyes are on the LORD!

PSALM 141 - Give Ear to My Voice - Prayer for Safekeeping from Wickedness - A Psalm of David.

Psa 141:1 LORD, I cry out to You; Make haste to me! Give ear to my voice when I cry out to You.

- Lord I’m crying unto You, listen to me. Hurry Lord. Have you ever thought that maybe God was moving too slowly? I thought to give God deadlines because if He doesn’t come through by Friday afternoon I’m going to have to do something about it. Lord, You have until Friday to work and if You don’t work by then, Lord, I’m just going to have to take over. I have found that often times God doesn’t meet my deadlines. I get very disturbed when He misses my deadlines. Lord, I gave You a chance. You could’ve worked!
- Mary and Martha were worried because their brother Lazarus was so sick. They sent a message to Jesus who was down at the Jordan River with His disciples. The message was to come quickly, the one you love is dying! When Jesus received the message, He stayed there at the Jordan River for two days with His disciples. By the time Jesus was approaching Bethany, Lazarus had already died and been buried four days earlier. Jesus missed the deadline, He’s too late! The body has already deteriorated and smells by now.
- When word came to Mary and Martha as they were gathered with their friends and in that period of mourning, they mourn for thirty days for the death of a loved one by culture traditions, someone came in and said that Jesus and the disciples are coming up the road. Martha left the other mourners and went running down the road towards Jericho till she caught up with Jesus. When she did she rebuked him saying that Lord, if You only would have been here my brother wouldn’t have died. She was upset! He missed the deadline. Why didn’t You come quickly like we asked You to? Lord where were You when we needed You? It’s too late! If You only would have been here.” Jesus said, “Your brother will live again”. “Yes, I know in the last day of the great resurrection”. “I am the resurrection and the life! He who believeth on Me though he were dead shall he live, and he that live and believe in Me he shall never die. Don’t you believe this Martha?” “Yes Lord, I believe!”
- When they came to the tomb he said, “Roll back the stone.” “Oh no Lord. It smells pretty badly by now. He’s been there for four days. They rolled back the stone and Jesus said, “Lazarus, come out of there”. Lazarus came hopping out still wrapped in his grave clothes. If Jesus would have just said come out of there then the whole place would have emptied.
- Too late? No, too late to meet Martha’s schedule, but not too late to do His work! In fact, the work that He did was really a much greater work than just the healing of a sick man. If He had just been there in time to bring Lazarus out of the sickness everyone would have said, “He probably would have gotten over it in a day or so anyhow, you know he was looking better”. When the guy has been buried for four days, it’s awfully hard then to say, “He would have gotten better.” Too late, for my time schedule.
- I often say to the Lord to hurry up, hurry when I cry unto You. But, I’m not always that quick to respond when He calls to me! I say “Give me time now. I want to think about this.” It’s interesting isn’t it? We are slow to respond to Him but boy, when we call to Him we want Him to jump!

Psa 141:2 Let my prayer be set before You as incense, The lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

- In the book of Revelation chapter five, John there in the heavenly scene observes the goings on, the Father sitting on the throne with a scroll in His right hand with seven seals and the angel proclaims, “Who is worthy to take this scroll and break these seals?” John said, “There was no one worthy in heaven or earth to take the scroll or to even to look upon it and I began to weep because no one could take the scrolls and loose the seals.” Then the elder said, “Don’t weep John, for behold the Lion of the tribe of Judah had prevailed to take the scroll and to break the seals.” He said, “I turned, and I saw Him as a lamb that had been slaughtered and He stepped forth and took the book out of the hand of Him who sat upon the throne.” When He did, the twenty-four elders came forth with their little golden bowls that were filled with odors, which were the prayers of the saints.
- When the priest would go into the tabernacle or into the temple he would go before the altar with these little golden bowls that had the incense. They would take the coals from off of the altar where they offered the sacrifices. He would take coals and put incense in these little golden bowls and then they would take these coals and they would put them on the incense and this sweet smoke would rise. He would go in before the altar and he would swing these little golden bowls that were filled with the odors or fragrance of the incense that would rise as a symbol of the sweetness of the prayers of God’s people as they arise to the Father. Our prayers are like the sweet-smelling incense. God receives your prayers as a sweet aroma. David is praying here that his prayer might be *set before You as incense*.
- The prayers of God’s people being associated with incense, that sweet aroma coming up to God. How God loves the prayers of His children. He receives them as a sweet fragrance. In ***(Rev 8:2-4) And I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and to them were given seven trumpets. [3] Then another angel, having a golden censer, came and stood at the altar. He was given much incense, that he should offer it with the prayers of all the saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne. [4] And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, ascended before God from the angel’s hand.***
- *The lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.* Offering unto God the sacrifice of praise, the lifting of my hands being a form of the evening sacrifice. Then the prayer of David.

Psa 141:3 Set a guard, O LORD, over my mouth; Keep watch over the door of my lips.

- It’s been said that on average, a person opens their mouths 700 times per day! How many times have you said to yourself “I wish I had not have said that”? The tragic thing about words is that it’s hard to retract them once they are out. It’s like trying to get the excess toothpaste, squeezed out of the tube, back into the tube! The damage is already done! It’s awfully hard to go back and retract once you have spouted off. ***(Pro 10:19) In the multitude of words sin is not lacking, But he who restrains his lips is wise.***

Psa 141:4 Do not incline my heart to any evil thing, To practice wicked works With men who work iniquity; And do not let me eat of their delicacies.

- Don’t let my heart be turned towards anything that’s evil. Keep me pure. ***(Mat 6:13a) And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.***

Psa 141:5 Let the righteous strike me; It shall be a kindness. And let him rebuke me; It shall be as excellent oil; Let my head not refuse it. For still my prayer is against the deeds of the wicked.

- Faithful are the wounds of a friend! If I’m rebuked by the righteous because of what I’ve done that’s good, let them smite me Lord.
- David is praying that the judgment, the rebukes or the reproofs will come not from the wicked but from the righteous because with the righteous bringing rebuke there is always that side of mercy not of condemnation. If God should call you to go and to help someone who is slipping in the way, don’t go with a self-righteous, pompous, holier than thou, how could you do that brother attitude! Paul said, ***(Gal 6:1) Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted. “If a brother is overtaken in a fall, you who are spiritual restore him in the spirit of meekness considering yourself lest also you be tempted”.*** The rebuke of the righteous is like healing oil. It’s like pouring oil over the wound helping it to heal! Anytime we are called to that ministry of going out to lift a brother who has fallen, we are to do so with love and with mercy. Go with a purpose of restoring not of cutting or smashing him down.

Psa 141:6 Their judges are overthrown by the sides of the cliff, And they hear my words, for they are sweet.

- Speak kindness to them, comfort them.
- This is picturesque speech here. Do we get the picture?

Psa 141:7 Our bones are scattered at the mouth of the grave, As when one plows and breaks up the earth.

- Have you ever chopped wood and the chips fly all over the place? So, our bones are scattered. David says, that we are always living with our very lives in jeopardy. Just think about that!

Psa 141:8 But my eyes are upon You, O GOD the Lord; In You I take refuge; Do not leave my soul destitute.

- He's just talking about the distress. I feel like I'm all broken up. My life is just scattered! It's fractured! It is a mess, but Lord I am looking to You! That's such an important thing, when your life is a mess and it looks like things are not coming together and like it's hopeless, how important to turn our eyes to the Lord!

Psa 141:9 Keep me from the snares they have laid for me, And from the traps of the workers of iniquity.

- Lord, keep me out of the snare of the enemy who is seeking to snare the child of God. Nobody could preserve David but the LORD. He also will preserve us! It is hard to keep out of snares which you cannot see and to escape traps which you cannot discover. How we too, might cry out, "Keep me!"

Psa 141:10 Let the wicked fall into their own nets, While I escape safely.

- I don't blame him, I agree. Do we not all wish the innocent to be delivered, and the guilty to reap the result of their own malice? Of course, we do, if we are just men. There can be no wrong in desiring that to happen in our own case, which we wish for all good men. Yet it there not a more excellent way?

SUMMARY

- Lord Keep Me From Falling Into Temptation!
- Don't let the opportunity to sin and the desire to sin overlap in my life today.
- If does overlap, LORD, give me the grace to resist it or find the way of escape!.

TURN YOUR EYES ON JESUS – Michael W. Smith (1:24)

Psa 141:8 But my eyes are upon You, O GOD the Lord; In You I take refuge; Do not leave my soul destitute.

*Turn your eyes upon Jesus, Look full in His wonderful face,
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim, In the light of His Glory and Grace.*

PRAY FOR OUR NATION'S LEADERS: PRAY FOR CALIFORNIA: PRAY FOR WORLD

LEADERS: - Pray for World Leaders, especially their salvation, including: Xi Jinping – China; Narendra Modi- India; Joe Biden – USA; Joko Widodo - Indonesia; Jair Bolsonaro - Brazil; Arif Alvi - Pakistan; Muhammadu Buhari - Nigeria; Hasina Wazed - Bangladesh; Vladimir Putin- Russia; Lopez Obrador – Mexico; Naftali Bennett – Israel; Angela Merkel – Germany; Boris Johnson – U.K.; Kim Jong-un – North Korea; Kim Boo-kyum – South Korea.

PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH/PERSECUTED CHURCH; SCHOOLS; POLICE OFFICERS/MILITARY; ISRAEL: