

## Psalm 140 A Psalm of David

### ***LORD, please rescue me***

<sup>1-3</sup> There are evil men who want to hurt me and kill me if they can. These are violent men who have a wicked heart. They're always stirring up fights and skirmishes, and they're always trying to come up with new and more effective ways to take me down. Their words are sharp and cutting, and when they talk, they spit out poison. LORD, please rescue me from these evil men.

Folks, stop what you are doing, and ponder what I just shared with you. This is serious stuff.

<sup>4-5</sup> LORD, please don't let these wicked men get their hands on me. These people want to do away with me, so please guard and protect me from the violent traps they set. These proud men have hidden traps so that they can catch me in a net, bind me with a rope, or spring on me before I know it. They are serious in their attempts to harm me.

Folks, stop what you are doing, and ponder what I just shared with you. This is serious stuff.

<sup>6</sup> Here is what I said to the LORD,

"You are the LORD God, and You are my God. Please listen with great interest to my pleas for Your mercy. <sup>7</sup> It is Your strength that has saved me up until now, and You have protected me in battle. <sup>8</sup> Please withhold the ability of these wicked people to accomplish their evil desires so that they will not be able to boast about their success."

Folks, stop what you are doing, and ponder what I just shared with you. This is serious stuff.

<sup>9</sup> As for my opponents, cause their own words to overwhelm them and bring about their demise. <sup>10</sup> Cause hot lightning to strike them on their heads, cause them to be thrown into the fire that will repay them for their evil, and cause them to fall into a deep pit where there is no way to escape. <sup>11</sup> Please don't let their slander take root and cause more trouble for me. Allow evil to hunt these people down quickly. That's right, give them what they deserve.

<sup>12</sup> LORD, I know that someday You will fight for me. I am being severely afflicted, but I know that You will execute justice on my behalf. <sup>13</sup> Surely every good and godly man will give thanks to Your holy name, and those who do what is right in Your sight will dwell with You in heaven. LORD, please help me so that I can be that man.