

Psalm 41 A Psalm of David

¹ Happy is the man who has concern for those in need. He will look into a situation to determine if there is a genuine need, and then he will do what he can to help. ² The LORD will protect him from his enemies so that they cannot succeed in killing him, and the populace will call him a wonderful person. ³ The LORD will heal him when he is sick and hurting from severe persecution, and then He will give him strength to go on. This is what should happen, but as for me, I said,

“LORD, I must have committed some terrible sin against You because I have actually become sick as a result of being attacked time and time again by my enemies as well as by my closest friend. Please extend Your grace to me, and heal me.”

⁵ My enemies say all kinds of evil things against me, and the essence of what they say is, “When will this wretched man die and his name and reputation die with him? It can’t be soon enough.” ⁶ Then too, when my enemy comes to see me he accuses me repeatedly with words that have no basis in truth. This is all he is capable of doing because his heart and life are totally committed to doing wicked things. Once he leaves my house he hurries to his wicked friends to tell them all that transpired in my presence. ⁷ All of those who hate me gather together in secret and try to devise a plan that would effectively do away with me. They say, “His sin has literally made him sick enough that he could die. He is bedridden, and we hope he will never get up again.” ⁹ It is so bad that even my closest friend has turned against me. We used to fellowship together at meals, and I trusted him. I don’t see how my situation could get any worse.

¹⁰ LORD, there is no doubt that my situation is bad, but please extend Your grace to me and raise me up out of my sickbed showing my enemies that they have failed. ¹¹ When You actually do enable me to get up and go on with life, then I will know that You are delighted with me.

¹² As for me personally, You know that I am a man of integrity. I will not purposely do anything wrong or questionable even if it is pleasurable or beneficial. I behave like this even when no one is there to see me. Because of my integrity, You know that I don’t deserve such unfair treatment. I have to believe that You will enable me to stand in Your presence now and in eternity instead of lying in the grave somewhere. ¹³ Praise the God of Israel because He is great. Amen and amen.