

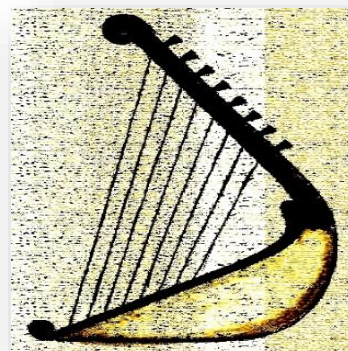
PSALM 141 vs 1

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Charles Spurgeon wrote: Yes, David under suspicion, half afraid to speak lest he should speak unadvisedly while trying to clear himself. In his days they were guilty until proven innocent. David is slandered and beset by enemies; David is censured even by saints, and taking it kindly; deploring the condition of the godly party of whom he was head; waiting upon God with confident expectation.

This Psalm is one of a group of four, and it bears a striking likeness to the other three. David prefers to be rebuked by the gracious, rather than to be flattered by the wicked.



A Psalm of David,

¹ O LORD, I call on You: hurry to me; hear my voice, when I call You /

it is evident that the psalmist is now in some distress, whereof he was deeply sensible; our prayer and God's mercy are like two buckets in a well, while the one ascends, the other descends -- Augustine.

² Let my prayer be as incense before You; the lifting of my hands as the evening offering.

³ O LORD set guard over my mouth; watch the door of my lips / a man would never use this language without a conviction of the importance of the subject; and without the conviction that he is in danger of transgression; and unable to preserve himself; and without the conviction to approach God for assistance. Prayer is evidence of our weakness – W. Jay's "the Regulation of the Tongue".

⁴ O my heart do not rise to anything evil, to do the work of fools who do their crimes / inequity, injustice, inequality: if that is their food, I would rather starve than eat with them – Joseph Caryl.
and do not let me taste of their delicacies.

⁵ Let the upright smite me in kindness and reprove me; it is excellent oil, may my head not refuse it:

yet still my prayer is in their calamities, / if ever those who reprimand me fall into disaster, and they thought they provoked me, by reproving me, that they have lost my love, and have cast them from my prayers, or that I will never speak well of them again; yet I will pray for them with all my heart, as their matter will require. I will pray for them when they have most need of prayer, **even in their calamities** – Joseph Caryl.

⁶ thrown down by the side of the cliff, their judges hear my words, for they are pleasant / perhaps this means: their leaders in their calamity, who fell, never to rise again, David wanted to only have his sweet words, the words of God's goodness and mercy... to be the last thing ringing in their ears.

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⁷as when one plows and breaks open the earth, our bones are scattered at the mouth of Sheol / one day our carcasses are parked at the garbage dump,

⁸but my eyes are toward You, O God the LORD: in You, I take refuge;

do not leave my soul exposed / in the meantime, O God, I am keeping my eyes on you; do not leave me destitute or defenseless.

⁹Keep me from the snares they lay for me, and the traps of those who work crimes.

¹⁰Let the wrong fall into their own nets, while I safely escape.

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