

PSALM 142 vs 1

KJV-lite™ VERSES

www.ilibros.net/KJV-lite.html

Charles Spurgeon wrote: This Maskil – a hedge: is written for our instruction. It teaches us principally by example how to order our prayer in times of distress. The disciples said to the Son of David, “Lord, teach us to pray.” Here recording his own experience, David gives us a valuable lesson.

A Prayer when he was in the cave: He was in one of many lurking places, either Engedi, Adullam, or some other lone cavern wherein he could conceal himself from Saul and his bloodhounds. Saul was sorely persecuting David.



A Hedge of David, when he was in a cave, A Prayer.

¹ With my voice, I cried out to the LORD; with my voice to

the LORD I make my request / my appeal; David isn't just thinking about something; he's talking directly to God. In the loneliness of the cave he could use his voice as much as he pleased; so he made its gloomy vaults echo with his appeals to heaven. When there was no soul in the cavern seeking his blood, David with all his soul was engaged in seeking his God – Charles Spurgeon.

² I poured out before Him my complaint; I declared my trouble before Him

/ whatever occupied his thoughts at the time, he expressed aloud – Albert Barnes; he did it fully, and fervently, and confidently – Matthew Henry:

³ when my spirit was overwhelmed within me / when my spirit was wrapped with darkness – Christopher Wordsworth; in the muffling of my spirit, when my spirit was so wrapped in trouble and gloom, so muffled around with woe, unable to see the path before me, distracted and unable to take the next step – A.S. Aglen, An Old Testament Commentary for English Readers, 1883; suddenly, quite emphatically;

then You knew my path / the Lord is not withdrawn to any great distance, but His eye is upon you. He sees you not with the indifference of a mere spectator; but He observes, He knows, He considers your path; He appoints it, and every event is under His direction. Your trouble began at the hour He saw best, -- it could not come before; He marked its degree to a hair's breadth, its duration to a minute. – John Newton, 1725 - 1807.

In the way which I walked, they secretly set a snare for me / snares on the right and snares on the left: snares on the right -- worldly prosperity; snares on the left -- worldly adversity; snares on the right -- flattery; snares on the left -- alarm. Do you walk in the midst of snares? Do not depart the way: neither let flattery ensnare you, nor alarm drive you off -- Augustine.

⁴ Look to the right, and see; for no one is there who regards me / the fact that David, although surrounded by a band of loyal subjects, confesses to having no true friend, is to be understood similarly to the language of **Paul when he says: I have no man like-minded** – Philippians 2.

For many years, I have often wondered about John the great baptizer in the wilderness, sent to prepare the way of the Lord. Certainly John was a rugged guy, undoubtedly someone of great intellect; able to recall many chapters of Moses and the prophets: Isaiah, Jeremiah, Daniel, Amos, Micah, Habakkuk, Zechariah and Malachi;

John could have done so much more with his life, than hang out primarily in the desert places day after day, come sunshine or rain, with probably a handful of very faithful disciples who greatly loved the Lord.

All human love, since sin took possession of humanity, is more or less selfish, and all fellowship of faith and of love imperfect. There are circumstances when these dark sides are felt nonstop, so one seems to be perfectly isolated, and turns all the more to God, who alone is able to supply that one's want of some object to love, whose love is absolutely unselfish, unchangeable, to whom the soul can confide, and who not only honestly desires its good, but is able also to cover it in spite of every obstacle. Surrounded by bloodthirsty enemies, and not fully understood by his friends, David feels broken off from all created beings – Franz Delitzsch:

refuge has failed me; no one cares for my soul / persecution from the side of our enemies presses sorely, but desertion by our friends, who should have stood by to help and defend, presses more sorely still -- Lange's Commentary; it's a terrible plight; no friend, no helper, no pitying heart.

⁵ Crying out to You, O LORD, I said: You are my Refuge, my Portion in the land of the living.

⁶ Hear my cry; for I am brought very low: deliver me from my persecutors; they are too strong for me / however true this may have been of David, lurking in a cave; yet it is more true of Christ who could say, "I am brought very low"; **because He became obedient to death -- death of the cross**; He was "brought very low". He had the right to sit in highest heaven, but was hung between two robbers. Truly also were His enemies for a while "stronger than He" eclipsing the sun of justice itself – Robert Bellarmine;

⁷ bring out of this prison my soul, so I can praise Your name / David seeks true fellowship; escaped prisoners are sure to speak well of those who set them free. I confess I am a poor prisoner to sin, I find many a door shut upon me in this prison, and many a lock upon the doors, many obstacles which I am never able to remove: So, O gracious Lord do that for me, which I nor all my friends can ever do -- pay the debts of Your poor prisoner, and open the prison doors – Matthew Lawrence, 1657; to be exiled from the people of God is worse than imprisonment:

surround me with the upright; for You deal bountifully with me.

Salvation is Your Name

This is My Father's World

Check out: Our Brothers and Sisters Around The World Singing GOD'S Praise:  **The Songlist**