



Psalm 140

1 To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David. Deliver me, O LORD, from the evil man; preserve me from the violent man; 2 Which imagine mischiefs in their heart; continually are they gathered together for war. 3 They have sharpened their tongues like a serpent; adders' poison is under their lips. Selah. 4 Keep me, O LORD, from the hands of the wicked; preserve me from the violent man; who have purposed to overthrow my goings. 5 The proud have hid a snare for me, and cords; they have spread a net by the wayside; they have set gins for me. Selah.

6 I said unto the LORD, Thou art my God: hear the voice of my supplications, O LORD. 7 O GOD the Lord, the strength of my salvation, thou hast covered my head in the day of battle. 8 Grant not, O LORD, the desires of the wicked: further not his wicked device; lest they exalt themselves. Selah.

9 As for the head of those that compass me about, let the mischief of their own lips cover them. 10 Let burning coals fall upon them: let them be cast into the fire; into deep pits, that they rise not up again. 11 Let not an evil speaker be established in the earth: evil shall hunt the violent man to overthrow him.

12 I know that the LORD will maintain the cause of the afflicted, and the right of the poor.

13 Surely the righteous shall give thanks unto thy name: the upright shall dwell in thy presence.

Introduction:

1. To the chief Musician (Asaph) (1 Chr. 15:16-17)
2. "A Psalm of David" – Inspired heading revealing to us that David wrote this Psalm. This is part of verse 1 in the Hebrew Masoretic Text.
3. A Psalm of protection from the wicked man.

Outline:

- A. Prayer for Deliverance (vv.1-5)
- B. Confidence in God's Deliverance (vv.6-8)
- A.' Prayer for Deliverance (vv.9-11)
- B. 'Confidence in God's Deliverance (vv.12-13)

Observations:

1. David was surrounded by slander and treachery from Saul and others of his enemies.

2. David prays and trusts in the LORD for his deliverance.
3. He also prays for judgment to be upon his enemies (vv.8-11).
4. David is comforted by God's righteousness.

Lesson: Prayer demonstrates confidence in the LORD and that He will answer when we pray.

Psalm 141

1 A Psalm of David. LORD, I cry unto thee: make haste unto me; give ear unto my voice, when I cry unto thee. 2 Let my prayer be set forth before thee as incense; and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice. 3 Set a watch, O LORD, before my mouth; keep the door of my lips. 4 Incline not my heart to any evil thing, to practise wicked works with men that work iniquity: and let me not eat of their dainties.

5 Let the righteous smite me; it shall be a kindness: and let him reprove me; it shall be an excellent oil, which shall not break my head: for yet my prayer also shall be in their calamities.

6 When their judges are overthrown in stony places, they shall hear my words; for they are sweet. 7 Our bones are scattered at the grave's mouth, as when one cutteth and cleaveth wood upon the earth.

8 But mine eyes are unto thee, O GOD the Lord: in thee is my trust; leave not my soul destitute. 9 Keep me from the snares which they have laid for me, and the gins of the workers of iniquity. 10 Let the wicked fall into their own nets, whilst that I withal escape.

Introduction:

1. Similar to Ps. 140 except an evening prayer of deliverance (v.2 – perhaps?).
2. Perhaps David reflected or meditated on this Psalm at Adullam (1 Sam. 22:1-23) or of Engedi (1 Sam. 24:1-22).

Outline:

- A. Prayer for Deliverance (vv.1-2)
- B. Prayer for Wisdom (vv.3-5b)
- C. Prayer for Vindication (v.5c-7)
- D. Prayer for Deliverance and Vindication (vv.8-10)

Observations:

1. David prays that he might be heard and comforted.
2. David prays that his service might be sincere (vv.3-6), and that he might be in safety.

Lesson: May my prayer be like incense.