



**Keeping Quiet But Talking About the Lord
Doing Life as Believers
Psalm 39 & 40**

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I spent several years working as a consultant to the insurance industry. For someone who was used to keeping things rather close to the vest, as most people who work in claims learn to do, I was suddenly thrust into an environment where it was all about tooting the firms horn as well as your own. See what you can do to first of provide value to the promise that was made by those who sold the engagement, and then expand on that value and provide others opinions that were not even considered before in order to



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remain at the location fully engaged in the project. What this meant was, I had to learn to have an opinion on virtually anything and everything.

I not only had to have an opinion based on my research, but also the documentation and expertise to back it up. When you are making recommendations based on your analysis of someone else's business that if they keep doing what they are doing they will lose a couple hundred million dollars in the next year, you need to be able to back it up.

But I also learned that if you are doing the work in a large company with multiple locations, and part of your discovery and research says the location you are currently examining, should be closed, you tend to save that for the folks back home in the C Suite and provide, no opinion locally.

There are times to speak, and then there are times to just use numbers, or say nothing at all. There were a couple of times where local management was really confused with the results because I did not add my opinion. But that was indeed provided to the folks paying for the work. So, your accused of being worthless as you leave one location, meanwhile the people paying the bill have a totally different opinion, and they're not happy either but, now they know where the waste in their organization is located as I had just left it. They know the bad news, including what I interpreted the data to say, but I did not provide the bad news while the ones to be impacted by it were in my presence. I was a fact finder only.

There is a time and a place where I spoke freely. David, as King, also learned that there are times to remain silent, and there are times to speak freely. When you are with the wicked, and you have nothing to discuss with them at all, it is best to say nothing. Even anything that is good as you do not want to create the impression that they are "ok".

I really do understand how hard that is since there was one location I recommended expanding and again, I had to remain silent.

No matter what you say, if you say it to the wrong person, it will be misinterpreted and spun against you. David knows that too. Let's look at Psalm 39.

Psalm 39:title–13

"For the music director, for Jeduthun. A Psalm of David. I said, "**I will keep watch over my ways So that I do not sin with my tongue; I will keep watch over my mouth as with a muzzle While the wicked are in my presence.**" I was mute and silent, I refused to say even something good, And my pain was stirred up. My heart was hot within me, While I was musing the fire burned; Then I spoke with my tongue: "**LORD, let me know my end, And what is the extent of my days; Let me know how transient I am. Behold, You have made my days like hand widths, And my lifetime as nothing in Your sight;** Certainly all mankind standing is a mere breath. Selah Certainly every person walks around as a fleeting shadow; They certainly make an uproar for nothing; He amasses riches and does not know who will gather them. And now, Lord, for what do I wait? My hope is in You. Save me from all my wrongdoings; Do not make me an object of reproach for the foolish. I have become mute, I do not open my mouth, Because it is You who have done it. Remove Your plague from me; Because of the opposition of Your hand I am perishing. With rebukes You punish a person for wrongdoing; You consume like a moth what is precious to him; Certainly all mankind is mere breath! Selah Hear my prayer, LORD, and listen to my cry for help; Do not be silent to my tears; For I am a stranger with You, One who lives abroad, like all my fathers. Turn Your eyes away from me, that I may become cheerful again Before I depart and am no more." (NASB 2020)

David wrote this for the music director and then he provides a name, Jeduthun. Who is he?



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Jeduthun's name means A choir of praise; one who gives praise; praising; celebrating; friendship; (root = to confess; to praise). Full of love. (Smith and Cornwall 1998, 124)

He was one of those ordained by the King's order "for song in the house of the Lord with cymbals, psalteries, and harps" (1 Chron. 15:6), and his children after him appear to have remained in the same hallowed service, even so late as the days of Nehemiah (Neh 11:17). (Spurgeon n.d., 214)

1 Chronicles 16:39–42

"He left Zadok the priest and his relatives the priests before the tabernacle of the LORD in the high place which was at Gibeon, to offer burnt offerings to the LORD on the altar of burnt offering continually morning and evening, even according to everything that is written in the Law of the LORD, which He commanded Israel. With them were Heman and Jeduthun, and the rest who were chosen, who were designated by name, to give thanks to the LORD, because His kindness is everlasting. And with them were Heman and Jeduthun with trumpets and cymbals for those who were to play them, and with instruments for the songs of God, and the sons of Jeduthun for the gate." (NASB 2020)

Jeduthun's job was to give thanks and praise to the Lord. David wanted to have worship and praise be constant at the altar of YAHWEH and Jeduthun was one of those charged with the task.

David provided this song to Jeduthun entrusting him to put it to music. After reading this psalm, I'm thinking a minor key to boot.

David begins this psalm with his determined statement to keep watch over what he does and what he says. He has a basic understanding that there are those who are always watching us, it could be our kids, our friends, or those who want to harm us. In fact, usually, those who want to harm spend more time watching others than they should.

There are those who will say things or do things, all to get you to say something, usually something you do not want to say. What others are trying to get you to do is what we usually call on off microphone comment. You know, when the person does not realize the mic is hot and the recorder is running. They make some off the cuff remark that formally, they would never say. I have seen that in business as well. We used to have a saying at work, don't put in an email anything that you would not want to read, out loud, to a jury of your peers. Do not write anything that you would not want to see on the front page of the newspaper tomorrow afternoon and then have news media wanting to know what it is you meant when you said that.

David is guarding his speech. He is the King, and there are those things he might want to say, but they could be taken out of context and then used against him.

We see that as well today. Make one random comment and you will indeed be reminded of it later. Others will build an entire repertoire of gaslighting comments all around it. And as believers in Christ, this is something we all have to be aware of, all the time, in our culture today.

And yes, unfortunately, there are also those CINO's out there, "Churches in name only", that will take any remark and then use it.

There, it is a method of exercising control over others. "The dynamic: This is the "shame on you" that comes from name-calling, belittling, put-downs, comparing one person to another or asking, "What's wrong with you?" It is any message communicated out loud that says, "Something is wrong with you."'" (Johnson and VanVonderen 1991, 56)



And there are churches all across the nation that have those on staff whose singular job is to shame others to remain loyal. Jesus has the following to say.

Matthew 11:28–30

“Come to me, all of you who are tired from carrying heavy loads, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke and put it on you, and learn from me, because I am gentle and humble in spirit; and you will find rest. For the yoke I will give you is easy, and the load I will put on you is light.” (GNB)

You sure do not get a lighter load when someone on a church staff is in your face saying things like “why are we always having to talk to you about...” That is the imposition of a burden and a yoke.

Israel was an honor and shame culture. This is another reason why David would indeed guard his speech. You cannot be shamed for something you never said, because the Lord knows you did not say it.

Ecclesiastes 3:7

“a time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;” (ESV)

Yes, this is indeed a lesson learned by David’s son, Solomon. But there is something that takes place inside David as well as in us as we remain silent and discern not to be saying anything to those who would abuse us or are of the world. Actually, there is no real difference there.

Psalm 39:2–3

“I was mute and silent, I refused to say even something good, And my pain was stirred up. My heart was hot within me, While I was musing the fire burned; Then I spoke with my tongue.” (NASB 2020)

David is doing the right thing and remaining silent, but it is eating him up inside and he finds himself sinning in his heart rather than doing so outwardly.

We really need to learn how to exercise what Paul says as we encounter this in our own lives, so we do not find ourselves mentally hanging folks out to dry and sinning in our hearts as well.

Philippians 4:4–7

“Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” (ESV)

No one, no thing, no organization is worth losing our internal peace over. This is a time to be silent and a time to speak, just as Solomon noted, but when we have been busy mentally rehearsing it, it gets a bit gamey and stinky like sin. So, Paul provides the solution.

1. Take time to worship and praise the Lord. Call it a mental reset.
2. Continue to be kind and gentle as you deal with the whatever it is and are silent in the face of what you are dealing with.
3. Do not worry about it. Sometimes we worry what someone might think if we are silent, who really cares. It is between us and the Lord. It is all about our relationship with Jesus. So, do not worry about it, let the mental praise reset have the effect you wanted.
4. Pray about it. Not just once but multiple times to include pleading with Him about it but also remembering to continue to be in praise and worship as well.



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5. The net impact of dealing with it the way Paul has outlined, it is the same thing David will do as well. You have talked to the Lord about what you wanted to say, He now knows it and can deal with it and you, and I are once again at peace knowing that the God of the universe loves us enough to take care even of this.

David covers this at the end of verse three.

Psalm 39:3

"My heart was hot within me, While I was musing the fire burned; **Then I spoke with my tongue:**" (NASB 2020)

David unloads on the Lord. He has a relationship with the Lord and is not shy at all about what he takes to the Lord.

We should get a hint from him on this. He begins his prayer with verse 4 and presents what is going inside, onto the Lord. "It also reveals his faith in the God who is right to punish sin but who also pardons and delivers from the full consequences of our wrongdoing." (Eveson 2014-2015, 248)

Psalm 39:4–5

"**LORD**, let me know my end, And what is the extent of my days; Let me know how transient I am. Behold, You have made my days like hand widths, And my lifetime as nothing in Your sight; Certainly all mankind standing is a mere breath. **Selah**" (NASB 2020)

We all tend to get wrapped up at times, in arguments and events that are designed by the enemy to waste our time and take us away from the real reason we are here on this planet. We are here to make disciples. Or, to put it another way, we are headed to heaven and trying to take as many along with us as we can. We truly want to make heaven crowded.

But the enemy would have us get involved in long term arguments that distract. He would love nothing more for us than to have relationship go sour and then for us to spend years lamenting the loss of the relationship or the loss of the ministry. The temptation to speak out against the one who has been the cause of this pain is real. David sees it as well so his prayer, let him realize how fragile life is here on earth. That in the grand scheme of things, most of us will not make it to even what would be 1/10th of the Kingdom time that we will all have a part in for 1,000 years. Our basic problem goes back to the fall; we all act like we will be around forever. If we know Christ, that is indeed true, but not in this body.

Ecclesiastes 3:11–15

"Yet God has made everything beautiful for its own time. **He has planted eternity in the human heart, but even so, people cannot see the whole scope of God's work from beginning to end.** So I concluded there is nothing better than to be happy and enjoy ourselves as long as we can. And people should eat and drink and enjoy the fruits of their labor, for these are gifts from God. And I know that whatever God does is final. **Nothing can be added to it or taken from it. God's purpose is that people should fear him. What is happening now has happened before, and what will happen in the future has happened before, because God makes the same things happen over and over again.**" (NLT)

David wants a reality check. He knows he will not live forever but he is dealing with the thing placed into all of us that his son wrote about.

Sam Storms describes it this way. "God has placed it within us to see the whole, to trace the hand of providence from beginning to end and to understand the sense of the parts as they fit into the complete picture. This is part of the image of God in us. There is a God-implanted, deep-seated drive and



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compulsive desire to grasp the strategy of heaven. We wonder about our destiny, the fate of others, where life is leading. We have a sharp and nagging thirst within our hearts which God will not allow us to quench until heaven. We long to see the beauty of it all (our aesthetic sense); we search to know the meaning of it all (our philosophical hunger), we want to discern its ultimate purpose in relation to God (our theological curiosity). (Storms 2016, Ec 3:11-15)

David is asking the Lord to help him not get caught up in the urgent, but remain on the important things of life and to fully realize and understand how quickly life goes by. I find myself still thinking I can do things I used to do when I was younger and then I am shocked that I can't do that anymore.

I still believe I am 20, and it is that young mind now stuck in a much older body that keeps writing checks that the body can no longer cash. "To know my end and the measure of my days is not to know how many days I have left (for this I cannot know) but rather to grasp that there are not many." (Ash 2024, 482)

By understanding the brevity of life, David knows that that the trials being pushed on him by those he is being silent around, will not last long.

Psalm 39:5

"Behold, You have made my days like hand widths, And my lifetime as nothing in Your sight; Certainly all mankind standing is a mere breath. Selah" (NASB 2020)

God's understanding of our life is very different than ours. He has an eternal perspective; we do not at present have access to that same perspective. David ends this verse with the word Selah, giving us the time to stop and then consider what it is he has just pointed out to us. And many today are indeed considering the brevity of human life and trying to do something about it. The true reality, the fall in Genesis 3 gave us death.

David knows this, we all know this. And because Jesus went to the cross for us and then rose from the dead, we know, that as followers of Jesus Christ, we too will live forever. But that doesn't stop us from looking at how fast life goes by.

Psalm 39:6–7

"Certainly every person walks around as a fleeting shadow; They certainly make an uproar for nothing; He amasses riches and does not know who will gather them. And now, Lord, for what do I wait? My hope is in You." (NASB 2020)

There is a reality that David is aware. All of us, due to the fall, are under judgment. That is why life is so fleeting. This is not our home, our home is with Jesus. But this reality also applies to the wicked as well, all those who would abuse or misuse David or us. They too are under judgment and unless they turn to the Lord before they die, even though they appear to be strong and dangerous, they will be swept away.

After pausing to consider and meditate, there is no change in the reasoning of David. Life is transitory. Save all you want, create an empire of stuff, but you will not be taking it with you. As a result, you have no idea who will benefit from all that you did while you were alive.

Jesus warned about this as well with the story of rich fool in Luke 12:13-21.

As David considers this, he has made a decision which provides for the reason to remain silent as well as try to stay away from all those connected with the unhealthy aggregation of wealth.

Psalm 39:7

"And now, Lord, for what do I wait? My hope is in You." (NASB 2020)



As followers of Jesus Christ, we too are caught up in the same decision-making regarding speech, and we too watch the wicked get more and more. But there is the realization that we too have a view of true reality, Jesus is on the throne, and He is returning for His own, that is what is eternal, life with Jesus, not life on this planet.

Psalm 39:8

“Save me from all my wrongdoings; Do not make me an object of reproach for the foolish.” (NASB 2020)

David has kept silent and he is fully reliant upon the Lord. If our time here on earth is so short, then what is there for us to do? To express our faith and hope in the redemption that we have only through Jesus Christ. David turns to the Lord to forgive him of all of his wrongdoing. He knows that the Lord is the only one who can provide hope in the brevity of life. His expectation, God will save him, the same as our expectation.

Psalm 39:9–11

“I have become mute, I do not open my mouth, Because it is You who have done it. Remove Your plague from me; Because of the opposition of Your hand I am perishing. With rebukes You punish a person for wrongdoing; You consume like a moth what is precious to him; Certainly all mankind is mere breath! Selah” (NASB 2020)

Earlier, David was silent as a means to prevent him from saying something he would regret. He did not want to sin with his mouth. Here, he references silence again, but now it because of his realization of who God is what He has done for him.

He has also experienced the discipline of the Lord. All discipline from the Lord is designed to make us more like Jesus. It isn’t fun to go through, and all of us need to have the perspective that we see in Hebrews.

Hebrews 12:11

“For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.” (ESV)

God whispers to us in our pleasures, speaks in our conscience, but shouts in our pain: it is His megaphone to rouse a deaf world. (Lewis 1996, 59)

Psalm 39:12–13

“Hear my prayer, LORD, and listen to my cry for help; Do not be silent to my tears; For I am a stranger with You, One who lives abroad, like all my fathers. Turn Your eyes away from me, that I may become cheerful again Before I depart and am no more.” (NASB 2020)

All our living and enjoyment in this world must be seen as something God allows us for a limited period, for some longer, for others shorter. Do we appreciate that in this world we are like guests in someone’s home? Even if we have inherited or bought our own house we cannot stay there permanently. Illness and death in the family bring home to us the reality of what David is saying. (Eveson 2014-2015, 251)

David’s final words here in this psalm is reflective that he wants his life to draw others to the Lord, not move them away from Him. He understands that we are all here literally passing through until we arrive at our real home with the Lord.

And David ends the psalm as he began, in silence waiting on the Lord.



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Psalm 40:title-3

"For the music director. A Psalm of David. I waited patiently for the LORD; And He reached down to me and heard my cry. He brought me up out of the pit of destruction, out of the mud; And He set my feet on a rock, making my footsteps firm. He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God; Many will see and fear And will trust in the LORD." (NASB 2020)

This is a psalm about someone who is sold out to do God's will. Some consider this a Messianic psalm as well.

Consider each of our own testimonies. The Lord rescued each of us from whatever cesspool we were digging in at the time and saved us.

We forget about that as we grow in the Lord. Because we have a sin nature, every now and then we walk past that portion of the pig pen we used to call home and we hear it call to us. In Christ, we have no desire to ever go there again, but Satan will indeed attack and tempt us about what it is we are missing since we have been gone.

We turn to Him in prayer and ask Him to save us and He does. But what if we ask Him to save us from a situation, not of our making but that is a trial of some kind. When He reaches down and pulls us out, how do we react? David gives us a hint here.

The Lord's help finally came, after a long period of waiting. Though we are not told exactly what the trouble was, the picture of being pulled out of a slimy swamp and set on a solid rock suggests a dramatic rescue of some sort. (Limburg 2000, 134)

This could be David talking about and remembering what it was like after over ten years of being on the run and bang, in less than a week he goes from outlaw to King (2 Samuel 2:1).

He does not tell us though so that would be a guess.

All of us though, fully identify with David because the moment we realize the trial is over, it feels like we have been pulled right out of the swamp. Praise, worship and rejoicing in the Lord are natural places to go.

And here is something else for us to remember. David was King of Israel and highly successful at it for over 40 years. He wrote many of the psalms and is referred to as a prophet and yes, he sinned, but he repented. If he can be caught up in a trial, so can we.

Psalm 40:4-5

"How blessed is the man who has made the LORD his trust, And has not turned to the proud, nor to those who become involved in falsehood. Many, LORD my God, are the wonders which You have done, And Your thoughts toward us; There is no one to compare with You. If I would declare and speak of them, They would be too numerous to count." (NASB 2020)

Now rescued from the trial, David is able to realize just how blessed he is and all of us are if we have placed our faith and trust in the Lord.

He is sharply aware the blessing results from confidence in this object of hope, in contrast to appealing to the worldly to get him out of trouble. Those are the self-sufficiently proud, who would offer God no praise, and the kind who depend on falsehood and explain life in that emptiness rather than giving God glory. (Rossrup 2008, 893)



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These two verses are also ones to turn to when you are down and needing a lift. We are given truth here. Trails and events in our life tend to drag us down and at time we lose our joy. The first thing we see here if you and I have placed our trust in the Lord, we are blessed.

We continue to trust the Lord even when it is hard to do and at times tough to wait on Him. We want to step out and help, and He does not need our help. Why?

Because of all the wonders He has already done. He created the world, He has protected you and me time and time again. He has made promises to us which we see Him fulfilling almost every day now.

Not only has he and does he continue to do many wonders. Literally, there is nothing to difficult for God and yes, miracles still take place even today. He has done many and will do many more yet in the future.

There is also something else the Lord has a lot to, thoughts of you and me. Consider this, He loves you and me so much that He wanted us to be with Him for all of eternity. And to make sure that would indeed be possible, Jesus Christ came to this planet as a man and died on the cross in our place and rose from the dead making it all possible.

John 3:16–17

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.” (ESV)

That is love. And yes, you could say He thinks about us all of the time. He wants us to be like Jesus and that is why the trials, and the discipline. To grow us because He loves us. We are His adopted kids, and we inherit all that Jesus does. He wants us to walk before Him just as Abraham was encouraged to do.

Genesis 17:1–2

“When Abram was 99 years old, the LORD appeared to him and said, “I am the Sovereign God. **Walk before me and be blameless.** Then I will confirm my covenant between me and you, and I will give you a multitude of descendants.”” (NET 2nd ed.)

The word walk means to order our lives, to direct our steps. And when God said walk (order your life) BEFORE ME (The Almighty God), He meant first that we are to live with the abiding CONSCIOUSNESS of God’s presence. We are to walk by faith, not by feelings or by sight...

God is with you whether you feel Him or not. God hears and answers prayers even when you feel your prayers are pointless and you see no evidence of answers. (Marcaurelle 2015, 69-70)

After all, as His kids, as we walk before Him, reflecting that we are doing so as obedient followers of Jesus Christ, we also understand how much He has thought about us already, even before the world began, and now we begin to understand that we are also joint heirs with Christ. Yes, you heard me right. Wow.

Romans 8:16–17

“The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that **we are children of God, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ**, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.” (ESV)

Then we come to the next clause here in verse 5. “There is no one to compare with You.”



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Our God is great and awesome, incomprehensible and beyond our full understanding. This is true on a cosmic level. It is true on a personal level too...The past is full of the Lord's blessings, the present is complete with his care, and the future is abundant in his plans. This is the God we can trust with confidence and conviction. This is the God we can count on anytime, anyplace, in any and every moment of life. (Smith and Akin 2022, 291-292)

Psalm 40:6-8

"You have not desired sacrifice and meal offering; You have opened my ears; You have not required burnt offering and sin offering. Then I said, "**Behold, I have come; It is written of me in the scroll of the book. I delight to do Your will, my God;** Your Law is within my heart." (NASB 2020)

The words of verse 6 are an echo of what was said by Samuel as he dealt with the sin of King Saul in 1 Samuel 15:22 that fully disqualifies Him from being King over Israel.

1 Samuel 15:22-23

"Then Samuel said, "Does the LORD take pleasure in burnt offerings and sacrifices as much as he does in obedience? Certainly, obedience is better than sacrifice; paying attention is better than the fat of rams. For rebellion is like the sin of divination, and presumption is like the evil of idolatry. Because you have rejected the LORD's orders, he has rejected you from being king." (NET 2nd ed.)

The words of verse 8 are placed, by the author of Hebrews, into the mouth of Jesus Christ. Jesus, who was in full submission to the Father and the Father's will, offered Himself as the sacrifice on the cross for us. "I delight to do your will."

Hebrews 10:5-7

"So when he came into the world, he said, "Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but a body you prepared for me. Whole burnt offerings and sin-offerings you took no delight in. "Then I said, 'Here I am: I have come—it is written of me in the scroll of the book—to do your will, O God.' " (NET 2nd ed.)

David, just as with all of us, needed to have his ears opened up to hear. It is not what we do that saves us, it is who we believe in. It is who we place our trust in.

David uses very graphic language to describe the way the Lord has prepared him for responding to God's will. He speaks as if the Lord has dug the holes in his skull for his ears so that he can hear clearly! It reminds us of what the Servant of the Lord said: 'The Lord God has opened my ear; and I was not rebellious, nor did I turn away' (Isaiah 50:5). (Eveson 2014-2015, 256)

Until the Holy Spirit has us realize our need for Christ and that all we have to do is believe, it is at that point, with the Spirit, that we too hear.

The Bible is no longer a dusty old book that is difficult to understand but it is God's word direct to you and me. His word feeds us and teaches us how to live. But without trusting in Christ and having the Holy Spirit then open the word up for us (John 15:26, 16:13), just as He promised to do, we would be clueless and in need of having holes put in our heads too.

It is not what we do that saves us, it is who we believe. He is the one who opens our ears to understand that it is not what we do that saves us. We cannot hear if we do not allow the Holy Spirit to teach us to listen and open up our ears.

How many hear with their ears only but do not hear with their hearts! They can't hear anything anyone, even God, says to them. As a result they do not know the blessing of God this psalm speaks of, nor the deliverance from the pits of sin, defeat, bad habits, or circumstances. (Boice 2005, 351)



Then we hear Messiah speak, clearly at this point. We already know, once before and once after our ears were made clear, that you cannot earn salvation. He wants our heart.

Psalm 40:7–10

“Then I said, “Behold, I have come; It is written of me in the scroll of the book. I delight to do Your will, my God; Your Law is within my heart.” I have proclaimed good news of righteousness in the great congregation; Behold, I will not restrain my lips, LORD, You know. I have not hidden Your righteousness within my heart; I have spoken of Your faithfulness and Your salvation; I have not concealed Your mercy and Your truth from the great congregation.” (NASB 2020)

By offering of burnt-offering God was not satisfied for sin, but only by Christ's coming and offering himself a sacrifice once for all: burnt-offering and sin-offering hast thou not required; then said I, lo I come, saith Christ. Both in the book of God's eternal decrees and in the book of holy scripture, this way of taking away the sins of men was established, as the only way to effect it; for, that the seed of the woman by his suffering should bruise the head of the serpent was foretold by God, Gen. 3:15. and Christ was the lamb slain in the representative sacrifices from the beginning of the world: in the volume of the Book it is written of me. (Dickson 1834, 223)

David is telling us of what it is Jesus would say and do. HE would delight to do the will of the Father. Are we like Jesus in this regard? Is our desire to be like Jesus and to do the will of the Father in all that we do? “Herein is the essence of obedience, namely, in the soul's cheerful devotion to God: and our Lord's obedience, which is our righteousness, is in no measure lacking in this eminent quality.” (Spurgeon n.d., 238)

Hebrews 12:1–2

“Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to **Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross**, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.” (ESV)

Jesus made certain the message was fully communicated to Israel, the great congregation of Israel heard the good news. The conclusion of some.

John 7:46

“The officers answered, “No one ever spoke like this man!”” (ESV)

Psalm 40:10

“I have not hidden Your righteousness within my heart; I have spoken of Your faithfulness and Your salvation; I have not concealed Your mercy and Your truth from the great congregation.” (NASB 2020)

Jesus was faithful to what it was He was tasked to do by the Father. He spoke clearly to those who would listen and to those who wouldn't He spoke in parables.

Since this a prophecy here about Jesus, let's take the opportunity here to learn from David about Jesus. We are to be like Jesus and Jesus did not hide anything from the people. He pointed to and talked about the righteousness of God constantly.

For us to be like Him, to be a true follower of Jesus and child of the Father, that means we too do not hide or conceal the truth either. We too are about the business of sharing and telling others about Him with every opportunity that we are given.



Psalm 40:11–12

“You, LORD, will not withhold Your compassion from me; Your mercy and Your truth will continually watch over me. For evils beyond number have surrounded me; My guilty deeds have overtaken me, so that I am not able to see; They are more numerous than the hairs of my head, And my heart has failed me.” (NASB 2020)

David speaks up here looking for God’s mercy and His truth. Before, he was pointing to the Messiah, and we see that Christ did the Father’s will. We are indeed to be about emulating Him and making disciples as we go about doing life. Now we are encouraged and know that as we go about following His will for us, that we are encouraged to come to the throne for mercy and grace.

How badly do we need His grace and mercy? Let’s see, evils surrounding us, there is that problem with the sin nature and our sin which we still have a problem with, yep, we need His grace and mercy more than we can ever fully understand.

Psalm 40:13–17

“Be pleased, LORD, to rescue me; Hurry, LORD, to help me. May those be ashamed and humiliated together Who seek my life to destroy it; May those be turned back and dishonored Who delight in my hurt. May those be appalled because of their shame Who say to me, “Aha, aha!” May all who seek You rejoice and be glad in You; May those who love Your salvation continually say, “The LORD be exalted!” But I am afflicted and needy; May the Lord be mindful of me. You are my help and my savior; Do not delay, my God.” (NASB 2020)

There is a realization that David has, and that we have as well as we strive to serve the Lord. There are those who want other things.

The need to be surrendered fully to the Lord has never been greater. There are indeed those who seek to stop us. The enemy will marshal whatever forces he has available to try and prevent ministry from taking place.

We are in real spiritual warfare; a good example is the ongoing issue we are having to get a Good News Club going. We will only get in through the power of prayer, we will only see results the same way. We stand with David and pray the same, trusting in the Lord to be our rescue and our help. Let’s pray.



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