



**Treachery  
Fallout from the Fall in the Life of David and Jesus  
Psalm 41**

Scripture quotations are taken from the following translations:

**ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.**

**Scripture quotations taken from the New American Standard Bible® (NASB),  
Copyright © 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973,  
1975, 1977, 1995, 2020 by The Lockman Foundation  
Used by permission. [www.Lockman.org](http://www.Lockman.org)**

**Scripture quoted by permission. Quotations designated (NET) are from the NET Bible® copyright ©1996, 2019 by Biblical Studies Press, L.L.C. <http://netbible.com> All rights reserved.**

**Scripture quotations marked (NLT) are taken from the Holy Bible, New Living Translation, copyright © 1996, 2004, 2015 by Tyndale House Foundation. Used by permission of Tyndale House Publishers, Inc., Carol Stream, Illinois 60188. All rights reserved.**

**The Good News Translation Bible (GNB) text used in this product is being used by permission.  
Copyright © American Bible Society, 1966, 1971, 1976, 1992**

**Scripture taken from the Holy Bible: International Standard Version® Release 2.0. (ISV) Copyright © 1996–2011 by the ISV Foundation. Used by permission of Davidson Press, LLC. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED INTERNATIONALLY**

**Scripture quotations contained herein are from the New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition Bible (NRSVue), Copyright © 2021, National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A., used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide**

**Scripture taken from the New King James Version (NKJV).  
Copyright 1979, 1980, 1982 by Thomas Nelson, Inc.**

**Scripture taken from The Holy Bible: The Contemporary English Version (CEV).  
©1995 by The American Bible Society, Thomas Nelson, Nashville TN.**

**Scripture quotations marked (CSB) have been taken from the Christian Standard Bible®, Copyright © 2017 by Holman Bible Publishers. Used by permission. Christian Standard Bible® and CSB® are federally registered trademarks of Holman Bible Publishers.**

**Taken from the Complete Jewish Bible (CJB) by David H. Stern. Copyright © 1998. All rights reserved. Used by permission of Messianic Jewish Publishers, 6120 Day Long Lane, Clarksville, MD 21029. [www.messianicjewish.net](http://www.messianicjewish.net)**

**Psalm 41:title–13**

**“For the music director. A Psalm of David. Blessed is one who considers the helpless; The LORD will save him on a day of trouble. The LORD will protect him and keep him alive, And he will be called blessed upon the earth; And do not turn him over to the desire of his enemies. The LORD will sustain him upon his sickbed; In his illness, You restore him to health. As for me, I said, “LORD, be gracious to me; Heal my soul, for I have sinned against You.” My enemies speak evil against me, “When will he die, and his**



**name perish?" And when he comes to see me, he speaks empty words; His heart gathers wickedness to itself; When he goes outside, he tells it. All who hate me whisper together against me; They plot my harm against me, saying, "A wicked thing is poured out upon him, So that when he lies down, he will not get up again." Even my close friend in whom I trusted, Who ate my bread, Has lifted up his heel against me. But You, LORD, be gracious to me and raise me up, That I may repay them. By this I know that You are pleased with me, Because my enemy does not shout in triumph over me. As for me, You uphold me in my integrity, And You place me in Your presence forever. Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, From everlasting to everlasting. Amen and Amen." (NASB 2020)**

Once again David is speaking about treachery.

And just so we are clear, I want to make sure, especially in a culture that has turned treachery into a virtue, what treachery actually is. It is a betrayal of a trust or confidence. Synonyms include disloyalty, faithlessness, perfidiousness, perfidy, treacherousness, treason; compare INFIDELITY. There are also related words to this, falseheartedness, falseness; double cross, double-dealing; sellout. (Merriam-Webster Inc. 1996)

We see this constantly in the news as certain political figures do this and then try to make it into a virtue.

It is a serious betrayal of trust by a close companion and David will be experiencing that and as he goes through it, it will also be a picture of the same treachery of Judas Iscariot towards our Lord. Treachery is what the nation was accused of in turning away from YAHWEH. Isaiah outlines the charges against the nation in Isaiah 48 leading to this.

Isaiah 48:8

"You have never heard, you have never known, from of old your ear has not been opened. For I knew that you would surely deal treacherously, and that from before birth you were called a rebel." (ESV)

The real truth, before we came to Christ and took advantage of the salvation He has provided to us, we too were guilty of treachery.

That is "THE" sin of Genesis 3. Man, created by the Lord, rebelled against his own creator and replaced the creator with himself as God. Satan is the author of this sin and as a lying rebel has not only convinced man to follow his rebellion, but by the time we arrive at Revelation 12, fully 1/3 of all of the heavenly hosts as well.

God takes the sin of treachery seriously and we should have His mind about it. But it is a go to for many false teachers and spiritual abusers today. It is not okay to do, not at all.

Here in Psalm 41, we are in a Messianic psalm and the treachery, is that of Ahithophel, a friend and advisor of David's who betrayed him when Absalom rebelled against his dad. Double treachery, a son has rebelled and was joined by a friend. Ultimately, Ahithophel committed suicide by hanging himself. Clearly foreshadowing another who would betray Jesus in the future, Judas Iscariot. Absalom was killed as well. Yet this psalm begins with "blessed," which also means happy, and ends the same way.

What is the background on the treachery towards David that took place?

As we study the word, we discover that Ahithophel was an advisor for David and he had the gift of wisdom.



## 2 Samuel 16:23

"Absalom followed Ahithophel's advice, just as David had done. **For every word Ahithophel spoke seemed as wise as though it had come directly from the mouth of God.**" (NLT)

When Absalom, David's son, rebelled against his father, also an act of treachery, Ahithophel sided with Absalom and that was a major concern for David as he gave good advice. Upon learning that his advisor had remained behind, he prayed about the advice that would be given to Absalom.

## 2 Samuel 15:31

"When someone told David that his adviser Ahithophel was now backing Absalom, **David prayed, "O LORD, let Ahithophel give Absalom foolish advice!"**" (NLT)

God answered that prayer by having David meet with Hushai, another advisor who was loyal to David. He returned and feigned loyalty to Absalom in order to frustrate the advice of Ahithophel (2 Samuel 15:34).

After advising Absalom to assert his authority publicly by having sex with the concubines David had left behind, he then advised Absalom to send an army of 12,000 to destroy David.

Hushai said wait and build up a bigger force and then go after David.

## 2 Samuel 17:14

"Then Absalom and all the men of Israel said, "Hushai's advice is better than Ahithophel's." **For the LORD had determined to defeat the counsel of Ahithophel, which really was the better plan, so that he could bring disaster on Absalom!**" (NLT)

David was briefed on what took place and he took action based on that crossing the Jordan and becoming out of reach. Ahithophel's advice was rejected and this damaged his pride. It really was good advice and really would have led to the destruction of David, the Lord was in what took place.

## 2 Samuel 17:23

"When Ahithophel realized that his advice had not been followed, **he saddled his donkey, went to his hometown, set his affairs in order, and hanged himself.** He died there and was buried in the family tomb." (NLT)

He knew that David would return and once again be king and he was a dead man walking. But just like Judas, he was a trusted friend who betrayed his friend and plotted to kill their friend.

And there is also something about the method of death they both took, hanging. That choice reflects that they were cursed of God.

## Deuteronomy 21:22–23

"If someone has committed a crime worthy of death and is executed and hung on a tree, the body must not remain hanging from the tree overnight. You must bury the body that same day, for anyone who is hung is cursed in the sight of God. In this way, you will prevent the defilement of the land the LORD your God is giving you as your special possession." (NLT)

In the thinking of ancient Israel there was something worse than being put to death. Worse than that was to be put to death and to have your corpse left exposed to shame, humiliation, and scavenging animals and birds. Hang him on a tree does not have the idea of being executed by strangulation; but of having the corpse mounted on a tree or other prominent place, to expose the executed one to disgrace and the elements. (Guzilk 2004, Dt 21:22-23)



Both hanged themselves once the betrayal was completed. Jesus would quote from verse 9 in regard to the treachery of Judas.

John 13:18

"I am not speaking of all of you; I know whom I have chosen. **But the Scripture will be fulfilled, 'He who ate my bread has lifted his heel against me.'**" (ESV)

This is indeed a prophetic Messianic psalm even to the point of David saying he is here to take note of the helpless and then becoming helpless himself.

Psalm 41:1

"Blessed is one who considers the helpless; The LORD will save him on a day of trouble." (NASB 2020)

Some translations reflect the word poor rather than helpless here.

The Hebrew word David uses is **לֹא** (dal). It means "low, poor...helpless... powerless, insignificant." (Kohler, et al. 1994-2000, 221-222)

David says blessed, happy is the one who considers and has the insight to know how to help the one who is helpless, powerless, insignificant. Blessed are the caregivers, the ones who care for the weak. That is not just those who are poor but can mean the weakness or need of many kinds. When he says consider, "the focus is not so much on compassion, for which another verb would be used, but on having "a definite policy to help the weak," such as would be especially apposite(sic) (appropriate) for a King." (Ash 2024, 505)

David begins with saying happy is the one who considers the helpless, he described himself as that in the last psalm we looked at in Psalm 40:17. The message being conveyed is we are considerate of the helpless because at the end of the day, we are also helpless having to rely on the Lord to take care of our sin problem for us.

We are told here that as we care for those who are weak, we can also rest in the assurance of knowing that the Lord will take care of us in our day of trouble. Again, thinking about the situation that led David to write this psalm, as he is leaving Jerusalem with those who are going with, literally running for their lives, he and those with him have moved from simply caring for those who are helpless to being that themselves and having to rely on others they have cared for in the past. Now David is relying on the Lord in his day of trouble.

And yes, Jesus would indeed expand on this idea in Matthew 5.

Psalm 41:2-3

"The LORD will protect him and keep him alive, And he will be called blessed upon the earth; And do not turn him over to the desire of his enemies. The LORD will sustain him upon his sickbed; In his illness, You restore him to health." (NASB 2020)

David here makes reference to the covenant keeping God of Israel, YAHWEH as the one who now keeps him in the day of trouble, the one who, as he runs with others for protection from Absalom, will keep them alive and will sustain him and heal him and those with him who are sick.

Just as David has shown mercy in the past, now, he is the one in need of mercy.



As David talks about the mercy he has shown others, he is also now relying on mercy from the Lord, and he moves from general to specific. And what the Lord does for the one who has shown mercy is also reflected the same way.

There are seven things that the psalmist says God will do for the one who shows mercy. The Lord will “deliver him in times of trouble,” “protect him,” “preserve his life,” “bless him in the land,” “not surrender him to the desire of his foes,” “sustain him on his sickbed,” and “restore him” to health. (Boice 2005, 356)

All things that David as well as all of those who have fled with him are in need of. And David also knows that he will indeed be restored to health, to his kingdom when this is all over. I am sure that as he heads literally for the hills, there is also an awareness in him of his sin and that this which is taking place to him is one of the promised outcomes from the little chat he had with Nathan a few years back.

His tryst with Bathsheba had all kinds of negative results. Sin does that and he is now living through the reaping of what he did.

2 Samuel 12:10–12

“From this time on, your family will live by the sword because you have despised me by taking Uriah’s wife to be your own. This is what the LORD says: Because of what you have done, I will cause your own household to rebel against you. I will give your wives to another man before your very eyes, and he will go to bed with them in public view. You did it secretly, but I will make this happen to you openly in the sight of all Israel.” (NLT)

As this is going on and David flees, he also remembers.

Psalm 41:4

**“As for me, I said, “LORD, be gracious to me; Heal my soul, for I have sinned against You.””** (NASB 2020)

David does indeed know who he is in the Lord and that he is a recipient of the grace of God. “He pleads for the Lord to see him, feel for him, and act on his behalf. David often prays this way. He often prays that God would give him what he does not deserve but what he so desperately needs.” (Smith and Akin 2022, 301) That would be mercy and grace.

Everyday as we approach the Lord in prayer, this is one of those things we also need to keep in mind. We are adopted after all, and that means there is no reason for us to have any pride at all.

Ephesians 2:8–13

**“For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.** For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them. Therefore remember that at one time you Gentiles in the flesh, called “the uncircumcision” by what is called the circumcision, which is made in the flesh by hands— remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. **But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.”** (ESV)

As we remember just who we are in Christ, then we find ourselves praying right along with and seeking His underserved grace and mercy which He has promised to lavish on us.



CALVARY CHAPEL  
MARTIN COUNTY

Psalm 41:5–6

**“My enemies speak evil against me,”** “When will he die, and his name perish?” And when he comes to see me, he speaks empty words; His heart gathers wickedness to itself; When he goes outside, he tells it.” (NASB 2020)

There are those we love to see and visit with, then there are those we tend to be ambivalent about, and then there is that small, hopefully, group we would prefer to not see anytime soon.

We may not actually refer to them as enemies but in the business world, rather than call them that, they are usually referred to as the competition, and that is not in reference to another business engaging in the same business as we are. That would be someone who works for the same company you do who for some reason, has made the decision that they do not like you. Why? Who knows. It could be as simple as not saying anything to support them in a business meeting or a perception that you were promoted ahead of them. And then there are those who just want your job and they will play whatever political office games needed to make that a reality.

For David, when he uses the term enemy, he is not necessarily talking about someone who opposes him. He may be talking about someone who opposes the Lord. During the time of the judges, God used the nations around Israel as a form of divine punishment to bring them to repentance. That is one viewpoint David would have.

“Perhaps the simplest solution to this problem is to assume that the description of enemies in Individual Psalms has become “stereotyped” to a certain extent, because enemies of the nation are described as beasts and demons and thus are subject to a theological interpretation as people who work against God, while on the other hand personal adversaries or even sorcerers and demons can be described in the same categories. The important thing is not the precise description of the enemies, but the theological classification of their work as contrary to God and chaotic.” (Ringgren 1977, 217-218)

Unfortunately, these Satanically inspired folks not only reside in businesses all across our nation, but many of them are employed by churches and have never quite gotten the idea that in Christ, we all are brothers and sisters engaged in the same enterprise of making disciples. Having an Executive Pastor, for example, is not a bad thing since most senior pastors have zero knowledge about how to run an enterprise and as churches grow, many do indeed need the help. But the problem is about the spiritual background of who is hired. In 2022 George Barna’s research showed only 4% of all Executive Pastors nationally even had a Biblical worldview.

What that means is that in those churches which have an Executive pastor on staff running the business side of the organization, 96% of them do not even come close to following the Bible in how they make decisions and run the church. It is much worse. “Among Senior Pastors, four out of 10 (41%) have a biblical worldview—the highest incidence among any of the five pastoral positions studied. Next highest was the 28% among Associate Pastors. Less than half as many Teaching Pastors (13%) and Children’s and Youth Pastors (12%) have a biblical worldview. The lowest level of biblical worldview was among Executive Pastors—only 4% have consistently biblical beliefs and behaviors.” (Barna 2022)

What that means is simple, more than half of the churches in this nation are run a lot like any other business in town. Pray for the church in this nation, especially in light of the new pressures we see now being imposed by others outside the church onto those who believe.

The questions that David relates are not unusual though. Those who stand against him are also those who would be of the world and not of the nation of Israel, they are not believers or followers of YAHWEH. As we look at what this means today, it means that this is also a common reflection of unbelievers dealing with those who are believers today.



There are those who speak evil of the believing church, and we have seen that become a serious problem in just the past few days. In Minnesota, it is now okay, since the state law enforcement has done nothing to this point, to ambush churches and disrupt worship.

"Minnesota's Attorney General himself, Democrat Keith Ellison. Ellison, who is Muslim and the top law enforcement officer in the state, appeared Monday on Don Lemon's livestream to discuss the Sunday ambush of services at Cities Church in St. Paul by a horde of anti-ICE agitators. During his conversation with Lemon about Sunday's ambush, Ellison remarked, "None of us are immune from the voice of the public." (Christoph 2026)

In other words, the top legal law enforcer of the state has decided that the constitution of this nation no longer protects churches in his state, or anyone else for that matter.

This is an egregious example, but when David says his enemy comes to see him and speaks empty words, this is exactly what is taking place today. These are empty words.

Again, the theme is treachery and the example of the one who remained faithful even as others left Him is our Lord Jesus Christ whom David is also a type of.

What we are seeing though today at some locations in our nation is the same thing that David was seeing as Absalom rebelled. Jerusalem descended into anarchy as David and his court were forced to flee for their lives. That is always the goal of the enemy, to cause confusion and to sow discord. David talks about the duplicity of those who are enemies.

Psalm 41:6

**"And when he comes to see me, he speaks empty words; His heart gathers wickedness to itself; When he goes outside, he tells it." (NASB 2020)**

Almost the exact behavior that took place in Minnesota.

Absalom would tell his dad he was concerned. But meanwhile, outside the throne room, he was undermining David's authority.

2 Samuel 15:2–6

"And Absalom used to rise early and stand beside the way of the gate. And when any man had a dispute to come before the king for judgment, Absalom would call to him and say, "From what city are you?" And when he said, "Your servant is of such and such a tribe in Israel," **Absalom would say to him, "See, your claims are good and right, but there is no man designated by the king to hear you."** Then **Absalom would say, "Oh that I were judge in the land! Then every man with a dispute or cause might come to me, and I would give him justice."** And whenever a man came near to pay homage to him, he would put out his hand and take hold of him and kiss him. Thus **Absalom did to all of Israel who came to the king for judgment. So Absalom stole the hearts of the men of Israel.**" (ESV)

What Absalom did was treachery and he added others into the conspiracy to include David's own friend and advisor, Ahithophel.

2 Samuel 15:10–12

**"But Absalom sent secret messengers throughout all the tribes of Israel,** saying, "As soon as you hear the sound of the trumpet, then say, 'Absalom is king at Hebron!'" With Absalom went two hundred men from Jerusalem who were invited guests, and they went in their innocence and knew nothing. **And while Absalom was offering the sacrifices, he sent for Ahithophel the Gilonite, David's counselor,**



CALVARY CHAPEL  
MARTIN COUNTY

**from his city Giloh. And the conspiracy grew strong, and the people with Absalom kept increasing.” (ESV)**

Here we read of the conspiracy increasing, but it was taking place secretly, with whispering as David would call it.

Psalm 41:7-9

**“All who hate me whisper together against me; They plot my harm against me**, saying, “A wicked thing is poured out upon him, So that when he lies down, he will not get up again.” **Even my close friend in whom I trusted, Who ate my bread, Has lifted up his heel against me.”** (NASB 2020)

I see how determined the followers of Satan are in their attempts to destroy David, in their attempts to destroy Jesus and in their continuing attempts to destroy His church.

I agree with Spurgeon, “would God we were half as united in holy labour as persecutors in their malicious projects, and were half as wise as they are crafty, for their whispering was craft as well as cowardice, the conspiracy must not be known till all is ready. “Against me do they devise my hurt.” They lay their heads together, and scheme and plot. So did Ahithophel and the rest of Absalom’s counsellors, so also did the chief priests and Pharisees. Evil men are good at devising; they are given to meditation, they are deep thinkers, but the mark they aim at is evermore the hurt of the faithful. Snakes in the grass are never there for a good end.” (Spurgeon n.d., 258)

In verse 8, David is talking about the gaslighting that is taking place. Others are gaslighting and lying about him. The allegations are running hot and heavy through the work of Absalom as he undermines the authority of his dad. This is a classic play out of Satan’s play book. If you can’t beat them, lie about them and create the false impression that they will not take care of your problem or that they have wicked intent.

Today, just call the person you dislike a Nazi and many believe that will work. Other terms being thrown around today include fascist, homophobic, Islamophobic, intolerant, anti-freedom, and on and on.

Satan is a liar, so of course, he would lead those who are doing his work to lie about believers. We need to remember this though, “the wicked can do no more against the godly than God will permit to be done for the godly man’s exercise and good, yet many are the consultations which the wicked have, that they may hurt and destroy the godly.” (Dickson 1834, 232)

As we see what is taking place in David’s life, God is still on the throne.

As we see what is taking place in our own nation in the pockets of lawlessness that have popped up, again, God is still on the throne. Pray for those who have been sucked into the lies of the devil that they would see the truth that is only available in Jesus Christ.

The treachery being experienced by David was hard to deal with. The pain of one’s own child deciding not just to rebel, but to takeover and do so like any other middle eastern despot of the day in total ignorance of the Lord is one thing, but it was all those who he drug along with him to include David’s long time friend and advisor, Ahithophel.

Psalm 41:9

**“Even my close friend in whom I trusted, Who ate my bread, Has lifted up his heel against me.”** (NASB 2020)



The difference between David and Jesus though is huge, Jesus knew from day one that Judas would turn into a rat. But for three years Jesus invested in him just as he did with all of the disciples and close followers who were remaining faithful to Him.

The way David puts it, when everything was going well, then his friend was loyal, he was a good close friend who would eat with him but at that point, there were no demands on the friendship.

But when the situation changed, so did the friendship. It was not real and in fact never was real. That is one of the problems we have today, there are those who come into the fellowship and impersonate being a believer, and there are those out there who do a really good job too. Mark Hitchcock warns us.

"Heretics don't fly into churches on brooms, maniacally mocking Scripture and terrorizing the flock. They don't show up sporting horns and sinister smiles. Rather, they gain entrance into the fold through persuasive words, self-help principles, and charismatic personalities. They enter via slick, well-designed websites and blogs, bringing promises of personal utopia for their followers. They are well groomed, attractive, smiling, likable, inspiring, convincing, and most of all marketable. Their mission is to make you happy; to make you feel good about yourself. They want to help you make the world a place of "Justice. Peace. Love. Equality." Of course, each of those virtues is redefined to accommodate and conform to an ever-evolving worldly value system." (Hitchcock and Kinley 2017, 160)

Jesus treated Judas as a trusted friend, even knowing he would betray Him. All of the privileges of a trusted friendship with Jesus were his, but after three years, for Judas, it was not enough. Judas was not anything like what he was playing to be, he was a hypocrite.

But worse than that, Judas shows us that it is possible to be with Christ but know Him. To serve Christ but not know Him. To know everything there is to know about Jesus but never take that next step of trusting Jesus with everything and then really getting to know Him. Judas never recognized Jesus Christ as God incarnate, to him, Jesus was just a teacher.

He had the privilege of being with Jesus, but he never really did get to know Jesus.

When he became a traitor, it was over money. He valued money over his relationship with not only Jesus, but all the other disciples as well. How many false teachers are there in the church today that are in it for the money only. For years they carefully build up a reputation and when the moment is right, or when they could no longer hide it, the truth comes out.

Not everyone is as up front in their heresy as others. Many are very sneaky, but at the end of the day, it is all about the money.

Costi Hinn talked about this issue as well. "It was a simple money-in, money-out transaction, with God as the banker. Oral Roberts wanted to help more people understand it and take the risk to put it into practice. He taught that this way of thinking was used by Jesus and the apostles. For Roberts, it was faith that forced God to do what we wanted him to do. Believing enough, thinking positively enough, and giving enough could control the Creator!" (Hinn 2019, 47)

All completely false and all treachery. That is what false teaching is.

David had a close fair weather friend who was not really a friend. This was applied by Jesus to Himself as well, and the only difference is He knew it from the beginning.

Many of us have been caught up with those who appear as friends but really aren't. I will never forget being led to believe over multiple conversations that I had a good friend in some I was working with. We



ate together more than once, spent time together in church and I really thought he was a friend. I counseled with him over some difficulties that he had gone through when he was fired from a ministry position.

I learned later that he was never a friend, not really. He spoke a great game but at the end of the day, he had no friends because he was incapable of being a friend. Everyone he dealt with was someone he could use to further his own personal goals. Fortunately, I learned it early, but not all the circumstances in my life where I was seriously let down by some one, I thought was a friend, was as pain free.

Treachery is like that. We want to trust, and when bit, we back up some. If we are bit enough, we begin to overreact the other direction and cease establishing relationships with anyone. And that is not where the Lord would have us go.

There is a common thing though that we all tend to want when we are subjected to treachery, in the flesh, we want our pound of flesh. In the Spirit, we want to see the person be held accountable and repent, or removed from the place where they were able to be or even remain, faithless to others and the Lord. David was right there too.

Psalm 41:10–11

**“But You, LORD, be gracious to me and raise me up, That I may repay them.** By this I know that You are pleased with me, Because my enemy does not shout in triumph over me.” (NASB 2020)

As we read this verse, we find ourselves agreeing with David at first. We too, when someone has acted treacherously would agree that we too want to be lifted back up to the emotional and spiritual state we were in beforehand. For David, the King of Israel, what is happening as a result of treachery has a whole lot more going on. It is a direct frontal assault of Satan against the promises of YAHWEH to him. He knows that. And as King, he asks that he also continue to represent YAHWEH and repay those who have lied to and misused him and the people treacherously.

This is not, Lord restore me and let me zap them, so I feel better.

But if he is the King in David's line—and ultimately the Messiah—then they express a godly determination to do what the King must do, to care for the poor by punishing the oppressors, to carry out God's wrath on the wrongdoer (cf. Rom. 13:4). (Ash 2024, 509-510)

Are we jealous for the Lord and what others think of Him as a result of what we are going through, or are we upset for ourselves only? A lot depends on the same factors involving David and the Lord. As King, it was David's job to deal with treason. He knows that and prays along that line.

Is Satan using this to distract us or is he using this to stop ministry. If the lies and treachery are taking place to stop ministry, then I too find myself praying along with David here to repay those who are doing the activity. We do not have the temporal authority he had, so we leave it with the Lord.

And because He has taken care of us in the past, we know He will continue to do so in the future. Because of His love for us, we also know that whatever an unbeliever does to us and thinks they are getting away with, they will not get away with it at all. We know that there will be no shouting by the unsaved over us in triumph. David is expecting deliverance, we should do so as well.

Because Jesus was betrayed and died as a result, we can receive mercy to meet all our needs, whether those needs are for healing or forgiveness or strength to endure unjust opposition. In Jesus we have a best friend who will never betray us, but will always be there to give us mercy. (Futato 2009, 157)



David is praying for restoration to what the Lord called him to, upholding him in his integrity.

Psalm 41:12–13

“As for me, You uphold me in my integrity, And You place me in Your presence forever. Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, From everlasting to everlasting. Amen and Amen.” (NASB 2020)

David can pray this because of his relationship with the Lord and his continuing reliance on the Lord. Let's back up and take a look at this as a Messianic psalm, which it is. David is praying, what it is that Jesus would also ask for. That the Lord would be gracious to Him and raise Him from the dead in order to repay those who have conspired against Him. To deal with all of the treachery throughout the planet as a result of the fall.

By raising Jesus up from the dead, He demonstrates that He is the Messiah. He also demonstrates that He is the judge of those who reject what He has done on the cross and remain in their treachery. And by the resurrection He also knows this.

Psalm 41:11–12

“By this I know that You are pleased with me, Because my enemy does not shout in triumph over me. As for me, You uphold me in my integrity, And You place me in Your presence forever.” (NASB 2020)

Psalm 41:13

“Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, From everlasting to everlasting. Amen and Amen.” (NASB 2020)

David knew the Lord would keep His promises and restore him to his throne. Jesus also knew that the Father would keep all of His promises as well and we see both joining in worship of the Father, the God of Israel. “This verse ends with a double amen. “Amen, and Amen” means that God put the finishing touches on our salvation when Christ rose from the dead, ascended into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Christ finished the work of salvation for us. You don't have to add anything to it, but don't take away from the gospel by omitting the Resurrection. Without that there is no gospel. (McGee 1997, 745)

Let's pray.



## Works Cited

Ash, Christopher. 2024. *Psalm 1-50, The Psalms: A Christ-Centered Commentary*. Vol. 2. Wheaton, IL: Crossway.

Barna, George. 2022. "American Worldview Inventory 2022 Release #5: Shocking Results Concerning the Worldview of Christian Pastors." *Arizona Christian University Cultural Research Center*. May 10. Accessed January 21, 2026. [https://www.arizonachristian.edu/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/AWVI2022\\_Release05\\_Digital.pdf](https://www.arizonachristian.edu/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/AWVI2022_Release05_Digital.pdf).

Boice, James Montgomery. 2005. *Psalms 1-41: An Expositional Commentary*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books.

Christoph, Teri. 2026. "Minnesota's Muslim AG to Christians: Church Ambushes Are 'Just Something You've Gotta Live With!'" *Red State*. January 19. Accessed January 21, 2026. <https://redstate.com/terichristoph/2026/01/19/keith-ellison-provides-top-cover-for-anti-ice-radicals-who-ambushed-church-n2198311>.

Dickson, David. 1834. *A Brief Explication of the Psalms*. Vol. 1. Glasgow: John Dow.

Futato, Mark D. 2009. *The Book of Psalms*. Vol. 7, in *Cornerstone Biblical Commentary, The Book of Psalms, The Book of Proverbs*. Carol Stream, IL: Tyndale House Publishers.

Guzik, David. 2004. *Deuteronomy, David Guzik's Commentaries on the Bible*. Santa Barbara, CA: David Guzik.

Hinn, Costi. 2019. *God, Greed, and the (Prosperity) Gospel: How Truth Overwhelms a Life Built on Lies*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.

Hitchcock, Mark, and Jeff Kinley. 2017. *The Coming Apostasy: Exposing the Sabotage of Christianity from within*. Carol Stream, IL: Tyndale Momentum.

Kohler, Ludwig, Walter Baumgartner, M. E. J. Richardson, and Johann Jakob Stamm. 1994-2000. *The Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament*. Leiden: E. J. Brill.

McGee, J. Vernon. 1997. *Thru the Bible Commentary*. Vol. 2. Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson.

Merriam-Webster Inc. 1996. *Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Thesaurus*. Springfield, MA: Merriam-Webster.

Ringgren, Helmer. 1977. "בָּאֵךְ." In *Theological Dictionary of the Old Testament*, edited by G. Johannes Botterweck, translated by John T. Willis. Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company.

Smith, J. Josh, and Daniel L. Akin. 2022. *Exalting Jesus in Psalms 1-50, Christ-Centered Exposition Commentary*. Edited by David Platt, Daniel L. Akin and Tony Merida. Nashville, TN: Holman Reference.

Spurgeon, C. H. n.d. *The Treasury of David: Psalms 27-57*. Vol. 2. London: Marshall Brothers.