



[Psalms 139-141](#)

Psalm 139-141
Tape #7214
By Chuck Smith

Let's turn now in our Bibles to psalm one hundred and thirty-nine as we continue our journey through the Bible. Twenty-four verses, they are divided into six verses. The first six verses he talks about the omniscience of God, the next six verses he talks about the omnipresence of God, in the next six verses he talks a little about God's creative powers and the six verses are more or less a prayer and application of these things.

O LORD, thou hast searched me, and known me. Thou knowest my downsitting and mine uprising, thou understandest my thought afar off (139:1-2).

The psalmist is aware of how completely and thoroughly God knows him and knows all about him even as God knows you and knows all about you. The Bible said, "Everything is open and naked before him with whom we have to do. That is, you don't hide anything from God.

In the New Testament the book of Acts chapter five, in the early church they were having this move of the spirit. People were selling their property and they were creating sort of a communal life within the early church. One of the couples Ananias and Sapphira had sold their property. They brought a portion of the money and laid it at the feet of Peter. First of all Ananias came in and Peter said, "Ananias, why is it that you have conspired in your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit? Is this what you sold the house for?" and he says, "Ya". He rebuked him and he said, "You haven't really lied to man, you've lied to God. The idea that a person can deceive God, can hide from God issues of his life, you just don't understand God.

When David said, "You understand my thoughts afar off" in the Hebrew that does not imply that God is way off in some corner of the universe billions of light years away and I'm way over here but from that distance God understands my thoughts. The Hebrew indicates that God understands my thoughts in their origins. Now where do thoughts come from? What chemicals are mixed in the brain that causes these little brain flashes that bring thought and idea to me? Where do they originate and how do they originate? What David is saying, "Lord, you know my thoughts before I think them, you know the origins of my thoughts".

Thou compassest my path and my lying down, and art acquainted with all my ways (139:3).

That acknowledgement and realization of how thoroughly and completely God knew about every facet of his life.

For there is not a word in my tongue, but, lo, O LORD, thou knowest it altogether. Thou hast beset me behind and before, and laid thine hand upon me (139:4-5).

This goes back to you encompassed my path. I'm surrounded by God. He's behind me, he's in front of me and his hand is upon me.

Paul the apostle was invited when he Athens to come up to Mars Hill to present his ideas to the philosophers who spent their time debating and discussing and listening to new thoughts and new ideas. As Paul stood there on Mars Hill with the temple to Athena above him, the temples of Jupiter just down below him and the agoura of the city of Athens with all of the gods and the idols and altars throughout the streets he said, "I perceive that you're very religious people. As I have been going through the streets here I've observed all of your altars and idols, the gods that you worship". He said, "I did observe one altar down

there and I saw the inscription to the unknown god” he continued “I would like to tell you about this God. He’s the one that has created the whole universe and in him we live, we move and we have our being”.

In other words, He’s omniscient, He surrounds us. He’s in front of us, he’s in back of us and his hand is upon us. Our lives are totally encompassed by this God. I never arrive at any point but which God has not preceded me there. As I look back I can see how the hand of God has been on my life every step.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high, I cannot attain unto it. Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence? (139:6-7).

Now we are going to deal with the omnipresence of God. God is everywhere. How can I escape him?

If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there. If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea; Even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me (139:8-10).

Remember the case of Jonah? God called Jonah to go to Nineveh. Jonah, being a true patriot, did not want to go to Nineveh, that was their enemy. God had given him a message of judgement to give to Nineveh. Forty days and God’s going to destroy Nineveh. Jonah was afraid that if he went there and preached he might be successful that they might repent and God wouldn’t destroy them. So he decided to flee from the presence of God. He tried to hide from the call of God. He went down to Joppa and got a ship that was going to Tarsus, which was the end of the world at that time.

Jonah discovered that he could not escape from the presence of God out in the Mediterranean. God stirred up the Mediterranean in a storm, they threw over all the cargo. Finally, one of the sailors looking for anything else in the hold to throw over board found Jonah fast asleep. They woke him up and they said, “Man, you better start calling on your God, we are in big trouble”. Jonah said, “Just throw my over and it will all be over. I’m a prophet of God”. They didn’t want to do that, they did their best to try and ride out the storm but they saw that it wasn’t going to happen. They finally threw Jonah overboard. Suddenly there was a great calm and you know the rest of the story. Trying to flee from the presence of God by taking off to Tarsus.

Many times people make a mistake of thinking of God in way of sort of localizing God. In the Old Testament when they said, “Well he’s the God of the mountains, let’s fight him in the valleys. Our mistake was fighting him in the mountains” and God said, “I’ll show them I’m the God of the valleys too”. A lot of times we think he’s the God of the mountains when things are going great and we are on the mountain top of praise God but he’s not the God of the valley. He’s forsaken us when we are in the valleys. We think that when we enter the church we come into the presence of God, “Oh Lord it is so wonderful to gather in your presence this evening”. We think of, as we enter into the church, be dignified we are coming now into the presence of God. Let the holiness change our voice, be stiff in God’s presence as though God’s presence wasn’t with us when we were on the way. Where can I escape from his presence?

Our problem is the lack of the consciousness of his presence. That’s what we need. What we need is to be more aware of the fact that I cannot escape his presence. When I do those things that I think are being done in secret, God is there. I do not hide from God. I cannot hide from God. I cannot escape his presence. Where can I flee from your presence? The answer is you can’t. We live, we move, we have our being in God.

Jonah found out that God was down in the depths of the sea when he was there in the belly of the whale. He cried unto God, “I cried unto the Lord out of the depths of hell I cried and he heard me”. God’s presence down there in the depths.

If I say, Surely the darkness shall cover me; even the night shall be light about me. Yea, the darkness hideth not from thee; but the night shineth as the day: the darkness and the light are both alike to thee (139:11-12).

An interesting thing about light is that we have the infrared by which what is to our eyes dark with the infrared light you can see in a dark room. Armed forces have these special glasses that will pick up the infrared light and with these glasses you can see in the dark and they use them a lot in the night fighting. We've discovered that it's possible to see in the dark if you have the proper glasses that are equipped to help you see with the infrared rays. With God it doesn't make any difference whether it's dark or light, it's all the same to him. I'll wait until night and then slip out where God can't see me. No, he can see you just as well in the darkness of night as he can in the noon day sun.

Yea, the darkness hideth not from thee; but the night shineth as the day: the darkness and the light are both alike to thee. For thou hast possessed my reins: (139:12-13).

You are in control of my life, you are the one who is holding the reigns of my life.

thou hast covered me in my mother's womb (139:13).

Now we are going back to even before I was born God knew me. We are getting now into this area of God's knowledge. From the eternal, before I was ever formed, before there was ever any substance God knew me. God said that to Jeremiah. He said, "Before you were ever formed I knew thee". In Jeremiah the first chapter verse five "Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee and before you came forth out of the womb I set you apart and ordained you as a prophet to the nations". God spoke of Cyrus, the work that he would do a hundred and fifty years before he was ever born, before his mother was born. God spoke about Cyrus and the way that God would use him to set the children of Israel free from the Babylonian captivity.

I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvellous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well (139:14).

So looking at my human body and all my marvelous attributes and aspects of the human body, truly I am fearfully and wonderfully made. The capacities of the body; sight, smell, hearing, taste and touch. I marvel at the design, the body's capacity to mend itself.

A while back when I was cutting down one of our trees with my chainsaw, as I was cutting the small branches trying to hold the branch and cut it the chainsaw jumped and came across my finger ripping my flesh off to the bone. I was just so disgusted with myself for doing something that stupid. I took off my T-shirt and wrapped it around it saying, "How can you be so stupid?" As I watched that thing with the blood spurting I grabbed it to put some pressure on to slow it down and I watched the blood begin to coagulate, I saw it shutting things off. I stood there and watched it for a while marveling at how these little platelets were already beginning to seal the thing off. I realized that in a couple of weeks it would be like new again. I said, "God, you are so marvelous to build in that system to cause the little platelets to seal off the wound and allow my cells to take over and reproduce and the scab will be gone". All I have left is a little line there, you can hardly see it.

Fearfully and wonderfully made, think of that. Creating me so that my body can mend itself. What tremendous wisdom in creation.

My substance was not hid from thee, when I was made in secret, (139:15).

When I was being formed within my mother. When those two half-cells came together and they began that process of reproduction and I was starting to be formed in within my mother's womb, God knew all about me.

and curiously wrought in the lowest parts of the earth. Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being unperfect; [not yet complete] (139:15-16).

I was in the formative state within my mother's womb and God saw me.

and in thy book all my members were written, (139:16).

God made a list of all my bodily members being there.

which in continuance were fashioned, when as yet there was none of them (139:16).

I think of this scripture in light of abortion. Though the humanist would pass it off as just tissue, they're always careful not to call it a baby but a fetus, they refer to it as just a tissue. It is interesting, that's not the way God looks at it. God sees it as a being, as a person, from the moment of conception.

How precious also are thy thoughts unto me, O God! how great is the sum of them! (139:17).

One of the things that I constantly marvel at is the fact that God thinks about me. Now I find that as something that is just absolutely astounding and amazing that God would think about me. Look at how many billions of people there are in the world today. Yet God thinks about me. Think of governing and guiding this whole universe, the awareness of God of the universe and life. Jesus said, "There is not a sparrow that falls to the ground but what your father doesn't take note of it". When I was a kid shooting sparrows with slingshots and BB guns as an afternoon practice, we gave God a lot to make note of.

God knows interesting trivia about you. For instance, he knows how many hairs you have on your head, interesting trivia. He knows all about us, he thinks about us but he thinks about us all the time.

How precious also are thy thoughts unto me, O God! how great is the sum of them! If I should count them, they are more in number than the sand: (139:17-18).

Someone has estimated that there are some ten to the twenty-fifth power grains of sand in the earth. That's a lot of thinking. In fact, if God thinks about you a billion times every minute he will be thinking about you for several thousand years.

when I awake, I am still with thee (139:18).

The psalmist realizes that the wicked are going to be cast into hell. God is going to destroy the wicked.

Surely thou wilt slay the wicked, O God: (139:19).

Therefore the psalmist addressing the wicked makes a declaration.

depart from me therefore, ye bloody [wicked] men. For they speak against thee wickedly, (139:19-20).

The bloody men, the murderous men actually, the men who shed blood.

and thine enemies take thy name in vain (139:20).

I sort of shudder the way some people speak of God contemptuously, wickedly. I was reading an article in Saturday's register on the sports page concerning this fellow Buster who was going to be fighting Tyson in Japan. It said that after his last bout in July when he knocked this guy out that the next day he accepted Jesus Christ and became a born again Christian. He said that he wasn't afraid of any man, he was only afraid of God and he believed that God was going to help him". Of course the writer of the article for the Boston Globe sort of tongue-in-cheek said that he's going to need more than God when he gets in the ring with Tyson". Evidently he didn't. It was one of those kind of contemptuous things, speaking wickedly of a man who had come to put his trust in Jesus Christ.

Do not I hate them, O LORD, that hate thee? and am not I grieved with those that rise up against thee? (139:21).

It really grieves my heart to read some of the articles that people write against Christianity, against purity and morality and against God. Now Jesus said to love your enemies, I find that hard. I find it a lot easier to join with David and just hate them that hate the Lord.

I hate them with a perfect [complete] hatred: I count them mine enemies (139:22).

David ends this psalm with a prayer.

Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: (139:23).

Go back to the first verse, “O LORD, you have searched me and you do know me”. In those first six verses he was speaking about the fact that he knew that God knew him better than he knew himself. Who was it? Socrates that said to his students, “Man, know thyself”. Self-knowledge is the most difficult knowledge you will ever attain and once attained it will probably be some of the most painful knowledge you’ve ever had to know the truth about yourself.

The Bible speaks so much of those who have deceived themselves, the truth is not in them. People are diluted, people are deceived. God said to Jeremiah, “The heart is deceitful and desperately wicked who can know it? But I the Lord do search the hearts”. So Lord you have searched me, you have known me. In God’s searching me and knowing me and knowing everything about me, knowing my thoughts even in their origins David said, “Such knowledge is too great for me I can not attain it”. David admits his inability to really know himself.

Knowing that God has searched me and that God knows me, he ends up praying “Lord search me and know my heart, try me and put me through my tests and know my thoughts”. It’s not here for the purpose that God might know me. Lord let me go through the trial that I might know myself. It is in trials that I really get to know myself. When the pressure is on, when I’m going through a real testing or a real temptation then is really when I know myself. The purpose of trials is so often to reveal the truth of yourself to you. God talking about the forty years that the children of Israel wandering in the wilderness he said, “To prove you, to know what was in your heart”. Now God knew what was in their hearts but they didn’t. So God put them through all of that testing so that they could see what was in their hearts. God also puts you through testing so that you can see what’s in your heart. Do I really trust in the Lord when the chips are down or do I begin to connive and try to work it out myself? God reveals.

Usually our opinion of ourselves is higher than what we really are. Getting this exalted of “I’m not too bad” Jesus said that that arises from the fact that we compare ourselves with each other. “You are they which do compare with each other but in this your error”. You look at me and say, “That guy’s got a lot of flaws. I know I’m not perfect but I know I’m better than he is”. You compare yourself with me and you look pretty good. Compare yourself with Jesus and then how do you look? I’m not the standard of comparison, he is. So we usually, because we are comparing with each other, we get this exaltation of ourselves.

Lord, put the test on so I don’t see the truth so I don’t rely upon myself and so I realize that I must rely upon God at all times. I don’t trust in myself, I trust in God. I don’t look within myself for strength, I look without unto God for my strength and my help. I don’t become self-reliant, I become God-reliant. That is what David is praying, you search me and know my heart, try me, know my thoughts Lord and then you see if there be any wicked way in me. Lord let it be exposed, let me see that in my life that is not in line with what you want, not in harmony with you. Lead me in your everlasting path.

Psalm one hundred and forty is another psalm of David. It is basically a prayer for God’s help from the enemies of David, which he seemed to have many. So the prayer is for deliverance from the evil man and preservation from the violent man.

DELIVER me, O LORD, from the evil man: preserve me from the violent man; (140:1).

David lived in a day of violence. There were many who sought after his soul, many who were wanting to kill him.

*Which imagine mischiefs in their heart; continually are they gathered together for war.
They have sharpened their tongues like a serpent; adders’ poison is under their lips. Selah
(140:2-3).*

They were seeking to destroy David with their tongue. It’s amazing how destructive our tongues can be, how sharp they can cut in another person’s heart. It is always a sad thing when a person uses their tongue to cut another person to ribbons or when a person uses their tongue in gossip to destroy another person.

reputation or their life. David said they sharpened their tongues like a serpent, the poison of adders' is under their lips.

Keep me, O LORD, from the hands of the wicked; preserve me from the violent man; who have purposed to overthrow my goings (140:4).

Who have set themselves against me, plan to overthrow me.

The proud have hid a snare for me, and cords; they have spread a net by the wayside; they have set gins [traps] for me. Selah (140:5).

David realizes that his life is in constant jeopardy, there were those who were seeking to trap him. In those days they would entrap animals by laying out the nets over a pit and then they would put bushes and dirt and all so you weren't aware there was a pit. The animal would come bounding along, hit the net and go into the pit and the animal would be caught or trapped. David said that they set snares and traps for me. They hid the snare and spread their nets.

I said unto the LORD, Thou art my God: hear the voice of my supplications, [prayers] O LORD (140:6)

I've made you my God, hear my prayers.

O GOD the Lord, (140:7).

This is the only place in the Bible where this phrase is used in the Hebrew. The GOD you notice is in all capitals. It is signifying in the translators that the word is YAWEH in the Hebrew, which is usually translated LORD in all capitals in the English Bibles. O LORD the Lord, would not fly in the translation so the put GOD in all capitals to indicate to you that it is the Hebrew YAWEH. Thus in Hebrew it is O YAWEH the Adoni. The Lord is the title there. That's the only time in the Bible that that phrase is used.

the strength of my salvation, thou hast covered my head in the day of battle (140:7).

Now the acknowledging of the Lord as my Lord who is my strength, has saved me. He shields me, covers me in the day of battle.

Grant not, O LORD, the desires of the wicked: further not his wicked device; lest they exalt themselves. Selah. As for the head of those that compass me about, let the mischief of their own lips cover them (140:8-9).

Lord, turn their evil back on them. Throughout the Bible it is interesting how many times the Lord turned the evil back on the person who was devising it. I think especially of the case of Haman who built the gallows ninety feet high to swing Mordecai in the eyes of all the people and how that the Lord turned things on him and Haman swung from his own gallows that he had built. How many times the enemies will come against you as a child of God but God will just turn their devices against them and you escape? That is basically what David is praying for.

Let burning coals fall upon them: (140:10).

David wasn't really that generous or kind with his enemies. He surely didn't pray that God would bless them but that God would really take care of them.

let them be cast into the fire; into deep pits, that they rise not up again. Let not an evil speaker be established in the earth: evil shall hunt the violent man to overthrow him (140:10-11).

David having prayed this then affirms his faith.

I know that the LORD will maintain the cause of the afflicted, and the right of the poor (140:12).

It's always good to know certain basic things about God. There are a lot of time when we are facing uncertain situations in life and it looks like maybe the enemy is prevailing, like maybe we are going to go under and surely there is no way that we can see out of this. So it is just good to know basic things about God. I know that God is good, I know that God loves me, I know that God is more powerful than any power on earth, I know that God cares for me and I know that the Lord will maintain the cause of the afflicted and the right of the poor.

Surely the righteous shall give thanks unto thy name: the upright shall dwell in thy presence (140:13).

The one hundred and forty-first psalm is a short little psalm and a prayer of David.

LORD, I cry unto thee: make haste unto me; give ear unto my voice, when I cry unto thee (141:1).

Lord I'm crying unto you, listen to me. Hurry Lord. Have you ever thought that maybe God was moving too slow? I thought to give God deadlines because if he doesn't come through by Friday afternoon I'm going to have to do something about it. Lord, you have until Friday to work and if you don't work by then, Lord, I'm just going to have take over. I have found that often times God doesn't meet my deadlines. I get very disturbed when he misses my deadlines. Lord, I gave you a chance, you had your chance. You could've worked, I gave you a chance.

Mary and Martha were worried because their brother Lazarus was so sick. They sent a message to Jesus who was down at the Jordan River with his disciples. The letter said, "Come quickly, the one you love is dying". The scripture said that when Jesus received the message he stayed there at the Jordan River for two days with his disciples. Then he said unto them, "Let's make a journey to Bethany that we might see Lazarus". Now from Jordan to Bethany is a two day journey, remember they are walking. By the time Jesus was approaching Bethany, Lazarus had already died and been buried four days earlier. Jesus missed the deadline, he's too late. The body has already deteriorated and smells by now.

When word came to Mary and Martha as they were gathered with their friends and in that period of mourning, they mourn for thirty days for the death of a loved one by culture traditions, someone came in and said, "Jesus and the disciples are coming up the road". Martha left the other mourners, went running down the road towards Jericho till she caught up with Jesus. When she did she sort of rebuked him saying, "Lord, if you only would have been here my brother wouldn't have died". She was upset, he missed the deadline. "Why didn't you come quickly like we asked you to? Lord where were you when we needed you? It's too late, If you only would have been here". Jesus said, "Your brother will live again". "Yes, I know in the last day of the great resurrection". "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believeth on me though he were dead shall he live and he that live and believe in me he shall never die. Don't you believe this Martha?" "Yes Lord, I believe". "Where did you bury him?" "Come on, I'll show you".

When they came to the tomb he said, "Roll back the stone". "Oh no Lord. It smells pretty bad by now. He's been there for four days". They rolled back the stone and Jesus said, "Lazarus, come on out of there". Lazarus came hoping out still wrapped in his grave clothes. Someone said it was good that Jesus said Lazarus come out because if he just said come out of there then the whole place would have emptied.

Too late? No, too late to meet Martha's schedule but not too late to do his work. In fact, the work that he did was really a much greater work than just the healing of a sick man. If he had just been there in time to bring Lazarus out of the sickness everyone would have said, "He probably would have gotten over it in a day or so anyhow, you know he was looking better". When the guy has been buried for four days, it's awfully hard then to say, "He would have gotten better". Too late, my time schedule.

I often say to the Lord to hurry up, hurry when I cry unto you. I'm not always that quick to respond when he cries to me. I say "Give me time now. I want to think about this". It's interesting isn't it; we are slow to respond to him but boy when we call to him we want him to jump.

Let my prayer be set forth before thee as incense; (141:2).

In the book of Revelation chapter five John there in the heavenly scene observes the goings on, the father sitting on the throne with a scroll in his right hand with seven seals and the angel proclaims, “Who is worthy to take this scroll and brake these seals?” John said “There was no one worthy in heaven or earth to take the scroll or to even to look upon it and I began to weep because no one could take the scrolls and loose the seals”. Then the elder said, “Don’t weep John for behold the lion of the tribe of Judah had prevailed to take the scroll and to break the seals”. He said, “I turned and I saw him as a lamb that had been slaughtered and he stepped forth and took the book out of the hand of him who sat upon the throne”. When he did the twenty-four elders came forth with their little golden bowls that were filled with odors, which were the prayers of the saints.

When the priest would go into the tabernacle or into the temple he would go before the altar with these little golden bowls that had the incense. They would take the coals from off of the altar where they offered the sacrifices. He would take coals and put incense in these little golden bowls and then they would take these coals and they would put them on the incense and this sweet smoke would rise. He would go in before the altar and he would swing these little golden bowls that were filled with the odors or fragrance of the incense that would rise as a symbol of the sweetness of the prayers of God’s people as they arise to the father. Our prayers are likened unto sweet incense. God receives your prayers as a sweet aroma. So David is praying here that his prayer might be set before him as incense.

In the eighth chapter of Revelation verse two,

“I saw seven angels which stood before God; and to them were given seven trumpets. And another angel came and stood at the altar, having a golden censer; and there was given unto him much incense, that he should offer it with the prayers of all saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne. And the smoke of the incense, which came with the prayers of the saints, ascended up before God out of the angel’s hand” (Revelation 8:2-4).

The prayers of God’s people being associated with incense, that sweet aroma coming up to God. How God loves the prayers of his children. He receives them as a sweet fragrance.

and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice (141:2).

Offering unto God the sacrifice of praise, the lifting of my hands being a form of the evening sacrifice. Then the prayer of David.

Set a watch, O LORD, before my mouth; keep the door of my lips (141:3).

How many times have you said to yourself “I wish I had not have said that”? The tragic thing about words is that it’s hard to retract them once they are out. The damage is already done. It’s awfully hard to go back and retract once you have spouted off.

Incline not my heart to any evil thing, (141:4).

Don’t let my heart be turned towards anything that’s evil. Keep me pure.

Incline not my heart to any evil thing, to practice wicked works with men that work iniquity: and let me not eat of their dainties. Let the righteous smite me; it shall be a kindness: (141:4-5).

“Faithful are the wounds of a friend”. If I’m rebuked by the righteous because of what I’ve done that’s good, let them smite me Lord.

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 (141:5).

David is praying that the judgment, the rebukes or the reproofs will come not from the wicked but from the righteous because with the righteous bringing rebuke there is always that side of mercy not of condemnation. If God should call you to go and to help someone who is slipping in the way, don’t go with a self-righteous, pompous, holier than thou, how could you do that brother attitude. Paul said, “If a brother is overtaken in a fall, you who are spiritual restore him in the spirit of meekness considering yourself lest also you be tempted”. So the rebuke of the righteous is healing oil. It’s like pouring oil over the wound helping it to heal, to nullify. Thus anytime we are called to that ministry of going out to lift a brother who has fallen, do so with love and with mercy. Go with a purpose of restoring not of cutting down or smashing him in.

When their judges are overthrown in stony places, they shall hear my words; for they are sweet (141:6).

Speak kindness to them, comfort to them.

Picturesque speech here, see if you can get the picture.

Our bones are scattered at the grave’s mouth, as when one cutteth and cleaveth wood upon the earth (141:7).

Have you ever chopped wood and the chips fly all over the place, so our bones are scattered.

But mine eyes are unto thee, (141:8).

He’s just talking about the distress. I feel like I’m all broken up. My life is just scattered, it’s fractured, it’s a mess but Lord I am looking to you. That’s such an important thing, when your life is a mess and it looks like things are not coming together and like it’s hopeless, how important to turn our eyes to the Lord.

in thee is my trust; leave not my soul destitute. Keep me from the snares which they have laid for me, and the gins [traps] of the workers of iniquity (141:9).

Lord, keep out of the snare of the enemy who is seeking to snare the child of God.

Let the wicked fall into their own nets, whilst that I withal escape (141:10).

I don’t blame him, I agree.

Father we thank You for David, for his relationship with You, for the honesty with which he was able express himself his feelings, his heart. Because of that honesty Lord, we find ourselves easily identifying with David for we too go through the same kind of trials in this life. As we try to live for You and we seek to live a pure and holy life, we find Lord that there are those who do wickedly and they would like to destroy us and they set traps and do their best to bring us down to their level. Lord, we know that You preserve the righteous and that You will keep us as we keep our eyes upon You. Lord, help us to understand fully how powerful You are, how wise You are and how loving You are. In Jesus’ name, Amen.