Psalm 141

"A Plea for Protection from the Wicked"

(A Psalm of David.)

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A1 DAVID'S PLEA FOR ACCEPTANCE AND PRESERVATION FROM EVIL  141:1-4

B1 His Plea to Yahweh for Rapid Response  141:1

C1 The Desperate Call:  {1} O LORD, I call upon You; hasten to me!
C2 The Plea for a Personal Hearing: Give ear to my voice when I call to You!

B2 His Request for Acceptance of His Prayer  141:2

C1 As Incense:  {2} May my prayer be counted as incense before You;
C2 As the Evening Offering: The lifting up of my hands as the evening offering.

B3 His Request for Divine Control of His Speech  141:3

C1 Guarding His Mouth:  {3} Set a guard, O LORD, over my mouth;
C2 Watching His Lips: Keep watch over the door of my lips.

B4 His Request to Preserve His Heart and Deeds from Enjoyment of Evil  141:4

C1 Attitude - Preserving His Heart from Evil:  {4} Do not incline my heart to any evil thing,
C2 Performance - Precluding Wicked Deeds: To practice deeds of wickedness
C3 Association - Preventing Corrupt Association: With men who do iniquity;
C4 Enjoyment - Preventing Perfidious Enjoyment: And do not let me eat of their delicacies.

A2 DAVID'S IDENTIFICATION WITH THE RIGHTEOUS AGAINST THE VIOLENCE OF THE WICKED  141:5-7

B1 His Identification with the Righteous against Wickedness  141:5

C1 His Request for Reproof from the Righteous
D1 Rebuke:  {5} Let the righteous smite me in kindness and reprove me;
D2 Beneficence: It is oil upon the head;
D3 Acceptance: Do not let my head refuse it,
C2 His Prayer against the Wicked Deeds of the Wicked: For still my prayer is against their wicked deeds.

B2 Because of the Disastrous Effects of Wickedness 141:6

C1 Justice Overthrown by the Evil Doers
   D1 Destruction of judges: \(6\) Their judges are thrown down by the sides of the rock,
   D2 In defiance of David: And they hear my words, for they are pleasant.

C2 Violence against the Righteous 141:7
   D1 Metaphor of plowing: \(7\) As when one plows and breaks open the earth,
   D2 Reality of violent death: Our bones have been scattered at the mouth of Sheol.

A3 DAVID'S PLEA FOR PRESERVATION AND PROTECTION FROM WICKEDNESS 141:8-10

B1 His Focused Dependence on Yahweh Adonai 141:8
   C1 His Focus: \(8\) For my eyes are toward You, O GOD, the Lord;
   C2 His Helpless Dependence: In You I take refuge; do not leave me defenseless.

B2 His Plea for Preservation from the Plots of the Wicked 141:9
   C1 From Their Trap: \(9\) Keep me from the jaws of the trap which they have set for me,
   C2 From Their Snares: And from the snares of those who do iniquity.

B3 His Request for Poetic Justice 141:10
   C1 For Disaster for the Wicked: \(10\) Let the wicked fall into their own nets,
   C2 For Personal Safety: While I pass by safely.