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.