

Psalm 41
07-14-19 PM

PART I: David's Story

Verse 5-9 - David's enemies included former friends (Ahithophel?)

David had multiple trials where he was afflicted by false friends

David could declare he had been poor, begging for food and other needs

Verses 10-13

David's one true friend will not relent

PART II: Remember the Poor

David declares: If you consider the poor:

God will deliver you

God will preserve you

God will bless you

God will sustain you

It is a struggle for Christians to remember the poor, since affluent societies look down on poverty

"It's their own fault"

"They should work harder"

Sometimes even Christians look down on the poor, and forget the command of God. We also forget that Christianity is a religion for the poor

Listen, my beloved brethren: Has God not chosen the poor of this world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom which He promised to those who love Him? James 2:5

Then He lifted up His eyes toward His disciples, and said: "Blessed are you poor, for yours is the kingdom of God" Luke 6:20

The rich barely can enter

Then Jesus said to His disciples, "Assuredly, I say to you that it is hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven" Matthew 19:23

Christians MUST be mindful of the poor, but there are two minds to have. This is the dual nature of poverty in Scripture

1) Those in great need of our attention

Whoever shuts his ears to the cry of the poor will also cry himself and not be heard.

Proverbs 21:13

He who gives to the poor will not lack, But he who hides his eyes will have many curses.

Proverbs 28:27

The righteous considers the cause of the poor, But the wicked does not understand such knowledge. Proverbs 29:7

For the needy shall not always be forgotten; The expectation of the poor shall not perish forever. Psalm 9:18

Have I not wept for him who was in trouble? Has not my soul grieved for the poor? Job 30:25

Jesus said to him, "If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me" Matthew 19:21

But you have dishonored the poor man. Do not the rich oppress you and drag you into the courts? James 2:6

2) Sin can lead to poverty

Poverty and shame will come to him who disdains correction, Proverbs 13:18

But idle chatter leads only to poverty Proverbs 14:23

Do not love sleep, lest you come to poverty Proverbs 20:13

For the drunkard and the glutton will come to poverty, and drowsiness will clothe a man with rags Proverbs 23:21

If anyone will not work, neither shall he eat. 2 Thessalonians 2:10

Difficult to always discern who is who: the circumstantial poor we aid; the consequential poor we do not. The need is not the determination. We can perceive if we determine to do it

PART III: David's conclusion

1) If our enemy does not overcome...

2) Then God is pleased with us

Our enemy

1) Satan – 1 Peter 5:8

2) The World – James 4:4

For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world--our faith. 1 John 5:4