

Finding Yourself in the Psalms
Psalm 41
A Psalm for The Betrayed

Few of us will ever use the words of David “*Even my close friend, whom I trusted, he who shared my bread has lifted up his heel against me*” (41:9)

David’s circumstance describe the **consequences of sin**.

I. **STRUCTURE.**

- A. The Experience of the Righteous. 41:1-3
 - B. The Deception of the Righteous. 41:4-6
 - C. The Plot Against the Righteous. 41:7-9
 - D. The Expectation of the Righteous. 41:10-12
- Conclusion to Book I 41:13 (See Psalm 72, 89, 106, 150)

II. **CIRCUMSTANCES**

- A. The deception of Ahithophel.
 - 1. 2 Samuel 15:30-31. Ahithophel turns on David
 - 2. 2 Samuel 16:15-23.
- B. Sickness. It is inferred that “In consequence of David’s great sin and his equally great sorrow, he became dangerously ill” (Scrogie).
- C. 2 Sam 15:3 indicates that David was not fulfilling his duties.
- D. **Psalm 41:4-9. Treachery.**
 - 1. Came to visit in his illness.
 - 2. Secretly plotted against David.

III. **LESSONS**

- A. Jesus understands the greatest human hurt. **John 13:18-19.** Omits “the one I trusted”
- B. Do not be surprised by evil. **1 Peter 4:12** “*Dear friends, do not be surprised at the painful trial you are suffering, as though something strange were happening to you.*”
- C. God is faithful. He rewards those who obey. **41:1-3**
 - 1. Delivers them
 - 2. Protects them
 - 3. Preserves life
 - 4. Bless him
 - 5. Sustains in illness
 - 6. Restores the sick
- D. Consequences of sin.
 - 1. David the warrior, flees from Absalom.
 - 2. David lacks the great courage he once had. Sin had taken it’s toll.
 - 3. God restored David’s **integrity**, but David had lost his **authority**. (41:12)