

Series: Pathway Through the Psalms

MINE OWN FAMILIAR FRIEND

PSALMS 41

Text: Psalms 41:9

Psalm 41:9

⁹ ***Yea, mine own familiar friend***, in whom I trusted,
which did eat of my bread, hath lifted up his heel
against me.

Introduction:

David was speaking of those who were disloyal to his regime, there is also a prophetic picture that points the reader to the betrayal of the Lord by Judas Iscariot.

We should note that Christ was tempted in all points understands what it's like to be betrayed by those we may have considered a friend.

Note:

1. THE REJECTION OF HIS FRIEND (VS. 9)

Psalm 41:9

⁹ Yea, mine own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, which did eat of my bread, hath lifted up his heel against me.

A. The Closeness of His Friend (vs. 9a) – “yea mine own familiar friend”

The word familiar is a word closely related to the word used for companion or spouse.

David has been hurt by someone who is very close to him, which is the most painful element of rejection.

Remember the Lord was betrayed by someone who was a part of the close-knit group of men who walked with the Lord for three years.

We note not only the closeness of his friend but also:

B. The Communion of His Friend (vs. 9b) – “which did eat of my bread”

Breaking of bread is a reference of communion and fellowship.

Many times the ones we have the most fellowship with can be the ones who hurt us the most.

Note not only the closeness of and the communion of his friend but also:

C The Contrariness of His Friend (vs.9c) – “hath lifted up his heel against me”

The picture here is of someone who has kicked another.

A horse may kick or “lift up the heel” as a means of rejection of rebellion.

In this passage we discover the real hurt and pain that the Lord endured as He was betrayed by His friend.

At times we fail to recognize that Christ endured every possible injury to His person. Not only physically He also suffered the disappointment and agony of being betrayed by someone He truly loved.

Note not only the Rejection but secondly:

2. THE RAISING (VS. 10-11)

Psalm 41:10-11

¹⁰ But thou, O LORD, be merciful unto me, and raise me up, that I may requite them. ¹¹ By this I know that thou favourest me, because mine enemy doth not triumph over me.

A. The Request to the Lord (vs. 10a) – “but thou O Lord be merciful unto me and raise me up...”

The psalmist plead with the Lord for mercy.

We too when we find ourselves in situations that are similar dealing with merciless people should plead with the Lord for mercy.

Remember He is the God of all mercy.

Psalm 86:15

¹⁵ But thou, O Lord, art a God full of compassion, and gracious, longsuffering, and plenteous in mercy and truth.

Note not only the psalmist request but also:

B. The Raising of the Lord (vs. 10b)

Psalm 41:10

¹⁰ But thou, O LORD, be merciful unto me, and raise me up, that I may requite them.

There are many times that we cannot lift ourselves up, and the Lord must lift us up.

Note not only the psalmist request and the raising of the Lord but also:

C. The Retribution of the Lord (vs. 10c-11)

Psalm 41:10-11

¹⁰ But thou, O LORD, be merciful unto me, and raise me up, that I may requite them. ¹¹ By this I know that thou favourest me, because mine enemy doth not triumph over me.

The word requite can mean two different things.

First it can mean to repay or reciprocate.

Secondly it can mean to forgive.

In Christ death on the cross we see the Lord was victorious over His enemy – Satan was defeated at Calvary and sin debt paid in full and forgiveness possible to whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord.

We have considered the Rejection and Raising of the psalmist note lastly:

3. THE REIGN OF HIS FOREVER (VS. 12-13)

Psalm 41:12-13

¹² And as for me, thou upholdest me in mine integrity, and settest me before thy face for ever. ¹³ Blessed *be* the LORD God of Israel from everlasting, and to everlasting. Amen, and Amen.

A. The Confirmed Position (vs. 12)

The psalmist recognized that is was the Lord who upheld him and kept him before His face.

B. The Continual Praise (vs. 13)

Because of the Lord and all that He has and continues to do we too should bless the Lord from everlasting to everlasting for He is worthy.