

Introduction

1. David's experience in sickness
2. Some wanted him dead! Why?
3. A subject relevant to us all

1. CHRISTIANS, LIKE OTHERS, MUST EXPERIENCE SICKNESS

- 1) C H Spurgeon: "Only one thing better than health."
- 2) Important lessons from sickness:
 - (i) reminds us of death
 - (ii) turns our thoughts to God
 - (iii) reminds us of our sinfulness
 - (iv) proves our true character
- 3) So, we do well to prepare for it:
 - (i) it comes to rich and poor
 - (ii) to wise and foolish
 - (iii) to saved and unsaved
- 4) The Bible shows us all this is so:
 - (i) so many who were helped by Christ
 - (ii) Paul's "thorn in the flesh"
 - (iii) Epaphroditus ("sick nigh unto death")
 - (iv) Timothy – 1 Tim 5:23

APPLICATION: We must prepare for it

2. GOD WILL HELP CHRISTIANS IN THEIR SICKNESS

- 1) Text: **Illustration** as a skilful muse does
- 2) How we may look for help in sickness:
 - (i) the Bible strengthens our faith
 - (ii) we are given a spirit of contentment

- (iii) God stirs others to pray for us
- (iv) God may give us good medical help
- (v) God may bring good company to us

3) God will protect His people from enemies:

- (i) v.5: "perish"
- (ii) v.6: hypocrisy
- (iii) v.7-9: those who wish us dead
- (iv) v.10-11: we are raised up to the disappointment of enemies

ILLUSTRATION: Famous Bible translator

3. THE WAY THIS PROMISE SHOULD AFFECT US

- 1) These are great promises: v.1-3.
They are from the experience of David.
- 2) These truths should affect us:
 - (i) v.1: we should remember the poor
 - (ii) we should pray regularly for the sick
 - (iii) we should visit the hospital, etc
 - (iv) we should appreciate our health
- 3) Above all:
 - (i) make sure you are a believer
 - (ii) and are ready for illness + death

CONCLUSION

Heaven is a place where the inhabitants shall not say, "I am sick".

PSALM

41: 1 – 6

41: 7 – 13

30: 8 – 12