

¹A Prayer of the afflicted, when he is overwhelmed, and poureth out his complaint before the LORD. Hear my prayer, O LORD, and let my cry come unto thee.²Hide not thy face from me in the day when I am in trouble; incline thine ear unto me: in the day when I call answer me speedily.³For my days are consumed like smoke, and my bones are burned as an hearth.⁴My heart is smitten, and withered like grass; so that I forget to eat my bread.⁵By reason of the voice of my groaning my bones cleave to my skin.⁶I am like a pelican of the wilderness: I am like an owl of the desert.⁷I watch, and am as a sparrow alone upon the house top.⁸Mine enemies reproach me all the day; and they that are mad against me are sworn against me.⁹For I have eaten ashes like bread, and mingled my drink with weeping,¹⁰Because of thine indignation and thy wrath: for thou hast lifted me up, and cast me down.¹¹My days are like a shadow that declineth; and I am withered like grass.¹²But thou, O LORD, shalt endure for ever; and thy remembrance unto all generations.¹³Thou shalt arise, and have mercy upon Zion: for the time to favour her, yea, the set time, is come.¹⁴For thy servants take pleasure in her stones, and favour the dust thereof.¹⁵So the heathen shall fear the name of the LORD, and all the kings of the earth thy glory.¹⁶When the LORD shall build up Zion, he shall appear in his glory.¹⁷He will regard the prayer of the destitute, and not despise their prayer.¹⁸This shall be written for the generation to come: and the people which

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shall be created shall praise the LORD.¹⁹ For he hath looked down from the height of his sanctuary; from heaven did the LORD behold the earth;²⁰ To hear the groaning of the prisoner; to loose those that are appointed to death;²¹ To declare the name of the LORD in Zion, and his praise in Jerusalem;²² When the people are gathered together, and the kingdoms, to serve the LORD.²³ He weakened my strength in the way; he shortened my days.²⁴ I said, O my God, take me not away in the midst of my days: thy years are throughout all generations.²⁵ Of old hast thou laid the foundation of the earth: and the heavens are the work of thy hands.²⁶ They shall perish, but thou shalt endure: yea, all of them shall wax old like a garment; as a vesture shalt thou change them, and they shall be changed:²⁷ But thou art the same, and thy years shall have no end.²⁸ The children of thy servants shall continue, and their seed shall be established before thee.

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