

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