

## PSALM 17:1-15

### CHAPTER STUDIES ON THE PSALTER

“, He is able to restore the preserved of Israel.”

David would not have been a man after God's own heart had he not been a man of prayer. He was a master in the sacred art of supplication. The smell of the furnace is on this Psalm, but there is evidence in the last verse that the author came out of the flame unharmed. It is a plaintive song, an appeal to heaven from earth's persecutions. The spiritual eye will see Jesus.

**(Ps. 17:11) They have now compassed us in our steps:** Evil has a hatred and a power that is continuous and energetic. They watch our every step, hoping to catch us by surprise. If spiritual adversaries surround every step, how anxiously should we guard our movements, lest we are betrayed into evil!

**(Ps. 17:13) Arise, O LORD.** The more furious the attack, the more fervent the psalmist's prayer. His eyes rest on the Almighty. He feels that God has only to rise from the seat of His patience and the work will immediately be performed. Let the lion spring, if Jehovah steps between, we need no better defense. When God meets our foe face to face in battle, the conflict will soon be over.

**Disappoint him.** Face, outwit, and outrun him, change his plans, disappoint him. **Cast him down,** prostrate him. Make him sink to his knees; make him bow as the conquered bow before the conqueror. What a glorious sight

it will be to see Satan prostrate beneath the foot of our glorious Lord! Haste, glorious day!

**(Ps. 17:14) From men of the world.** They are mere earthworms, mere dwellers in this narrow sphere of mortality. They are men having no hope or wish beyond the ground they walk on. **which have their portion in this life,** Like the prodigal they have their portion and are not content to wait on their Father's time.

**(Ps. 17:15) As for me, I will behold thy face in righteousness: I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with thy likeness.** I shall be satisfied in that glorious day when all the angels of God will come to see the triumphs of Jesus, when His people will be victorious with Him. The Treasury of David, Charles Haddon Spurgeon, updated by Mark Wash)

**What is the satisfaction of men of the world? of the righteous?** Ps. 17:9-15