



## **SERMON NOTES**

August 16, 2009

Scripture: Psalm 41:1-13 (NAS)

Topic: "Compassion for the Poor"

Rev. Bruce Gardner

- 1 How blessed is he who considers the helpless; The LORD will deliver him in a day of trouble.
- 2 The LORD will protect him and keep him alive, And he shall be called blessed upon the earth; And do not give him over to the desire of his enemies.
- 3 The LORD will sustain him upon his sickbed; In his illness, You restore him to health.
- 4 As for me, I said, "O LORD, be gracious to me; Heal my soul, for I have sinned against You."
- 5 My enemies speak evil against me, "When will he die, and his name perish?"
- 6 And when he comes to see me, he speaks falsehood; His heart gathers wickedness to itself; When he goes outside, he tells it.
- 7 All who hate me whisper together against me; Against me they devise my hurt, saying,
- 8 "A wicked thing is poured out upon him, That when he lies down, he will not rise up again."
- 9 Even my close friend in whom I trusted, Who ate my bread, Has lifted up his heel against me.
- 10 But You, O LORD, be gracious to me and raise me up, That I may repay them.
- 11 By this I know that You are pleased with me, Because my enemy does not shout in triumph over me.
- 12 As for me, You uphold me in my integrity, And You set me in Your presence forever.
- 13 Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, From everlasting to everlasting. Amen and Amen.

### **I. THE BENEDICTION**

- A. Benediction Defined
- B. Three Of The First 41 Psalms Begin With A Benediction
  1. Psalm 1:1-3 Blessing on the righteous
  2. Psalm 32:1 Blessing on the forgiven
  3. Psalm 41:1 Blessing on those who care for the poor

### **II. HOW DO WE BECOME HELPERS OF THE HELPLESS?**

- A. It Is A Fruit Of The Spirit *Galatians 5:22-23*
- B. We Must First Know Our Own Poverty *Matthew 5:3*

### **III. WHO ARE THE HELPLESS?**

- A. Those Who Have Temporarily Fallen On Hard Times
- B. Those Incapable Of Providing For Themselves

### **IV. WE ARE BLESSED IN HELPING THE HELPLESS**

- A. Jesus Is The Supreme Example *Philippians 2:5-11*
- B. Will You Follow His Example?