

Prayer

- Harvest's worship, evangelism, discipleship, elders, teachers, parents; officer training and election
- Our Presbytery, the PCA, the church around the world, particularly mission works and the persecuted church
- Our country, particularly those in high position
- Celestin—family, ministry to Muslims, efforts to help Congolese Presbyterians with farming
- MTW, SAT-7, MERF, ITEM, Gideons, Gospel for Asia, and other world mission works
- Robin – God's grace, mercy, and peace for everyone involved
- Heather Hakim – twins due end of November
- Phyllis Vanden Brink – getting medical care at Happy Siesta in Remsen
- Brother in law of JoAnn Vander Plaats and Darlene Fedders— waiting for results from bladder cancer chemo, newly discovered lung cancer
- Marlo and Darlene's friend with bone cancer
- The Rowenhorst Family—Randy's headaches; falls increasing, subsequent injuries
- Carla Van Essendelft's pregnancy, due October
- Jacob De Groot – air national guard school in Pensacola
- Jonathan Vander Plaats – completed Africa mercy mission, safe travel home
- Ron De Groot – looking for work, physical and spiritual progress, Christian friends

Doxology

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow!
Praise Him, all creatures here below!
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host!
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!*

<http://harvestoc.net>

the midweek prayer meeting · 8 July 2009 · Psalm 39

Devotional · Singing · Prayer · Doxology

¹*To the choirmaster: to Jeduthun. A Psalm of David.*

I said, "I will guard my ways, that I may not sin with my tongue;
I will guard my mouth with a muzzle, so long as the wicked are in my presence."

²I was mute and silent; I held my peace to no avail,
and my distress grew worse. ³My heart became hot within me.
As I mused, the fire burned; then I spoke with my tongue:

⁴"O LORD, make me know my end and what is the measure of my days; let me
know how fleeting I am!

⁵Behold, you have made my days a few handbreadths, and my lifetime is as
nothing before you.

Surely all mankind stands as a mere breath! Selah ⁶Surely a man goes about as a
shadow!

Surely for nothing they are in turmoil; man heaps up wealth and does not know
who will gather!

⁷"And now, O Lord, for what do I wait? My hope is in you.

⁸Deliver me from all my transgressions. Do not make me the scorn of the fool!

⁹I am mute; I do not open my mouth, for it is you who have done it.

¹⁰Remove your stroke from me; I am spent by the hostility of your hand.

¹¹When you discipline a man with rebukes for sin,
you consume like a moth what is dear to him; surely all mankind is a mere
breath! Selah

¹²"Hear my prayer, O LORD, and give ear to my cry; hold not your peace at my
tears!

For I am a sojourner with you, a guest, like all my fathers.

¹³Look away from me, that I may smile again, before I depart and am no more!"

Devotional

What is a muzzle?

Have you ever wanted to say something, but knew you shouldn't, so you kept your hand over your mouth?

According to v1, why is David guarding and muzzling his own mouth? T.H.I.N.K!

According to vv2-3, did it work?

Looking at vv8-11, what kinds of things do you think might have come out of David's mouth at the end of v3, and what do you think was the result? Whom does David think is responsible for that result? How does David respond *then*?

What are some of the reasons that it's so difficult to keep silent in the presence of the wicked—and how does the request in v4 seek help to keep silent?

According to v7, what condition should we find ourselves in if we take vv5-6 seriously?

Looking at v12a, how earnest is David about his prayers in v4 and v10?

Looking at v12b, how does David describe his status? Is that a place of advantage—what must he be hoping in?

Where do we WANT God to look when He thinks about us?

Singing



The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in 4/4 time, with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The lyrics are: "I will take heed; and guard my ways," I said, "So that my tongue no sin-ful word shall stain; As with a bri-dle I will keep my mouth, While in my pre-sence wick-ed men re-main."

²In silence dumb I ceased from speaking good; my heart within was hot, my sorrow stirred; ³And while I mused the fire began to burn; then spake I with my tongue this earnest word:

⁴"My end, O LORD, and measure of my days, make me to know, and thus my frailty see. ⁵Lo, Thou hast made my days an handbreadth long; My lifetime is a nothing unto Thee.

⁶Each man at best is altogether vain. Each man doth surely walk in empty show; they heap up wealth and vex themselves for naught, nor know to whom their garnered riches go.

⁷"And now, O Lord, what wait I longer for? My expectation ever is in Thee;

⁸Deliver me from all my sinfulness; the scorn of foolish men O make not me.

⁹"Yes, I was dumb; I opened not my mouth, because this work was done at Thy command. ¹⁰But now remove Thy stroke away from me; I am consumed beneath Thy smiting hand.

¹¹"Thou with rebukes dost chasten man for sin; his beauty fades beneath the touch of death; it is consumed as by the fretting moth. Oh, surely every man is but a breath."

¹²"LORD, hear my prayers; heed Thou my cry and tears; a stranger here I pass as all before. ¹³O spare me that I may recover strength before I go away and be no more."