



1 Hear my prayer, O God; □

hide not yourself from my petition.

2 Give heed to me and answer me; □

I am restless in my complaining.

3 I am alarmed at the voice of the enemy □

and at the clamour of the wicked;

4 For they would bring down evil upon me □

and are set against me in fury.

5 My heart is disquieted within me, □

and the terrors of death have fallen upon me.

6 Fearfulness and trembling are come upon me, □

and a horrible dread has overwhelmed me.

7 And I said: 'O that I had wings like a dove, □

for then would I fly away and be at rest.

8 'Then would I flee far away □

and make my lodging in the wilderness.

9 'I would make haste to escape □

from the stormy wind and tempest.'

10 Confuse their tongues, O Lord, and divide them, □

for I have seen violence and strife in the city.

11 Day and night they go about on her walls; □

mischief and trouble are in her midst.

12 Wickedness walks in her streets; □

oppression and guile never leave her squares.

13 For it was not an open enemy that reviled me, □

for then I could have borne it;

14 Nor was it my adversary that puffed himself up against me, □

for then I would have hid myself from him.

15 But it was even you, one like myself, □

my companion and my own familiar friend.

16 We took sweet counsel together □

and walked with the multitude in the house of God.

17 Let death come suddenly upon them;

let them go down alive to the Pit; □

for wickedness inhabits their dwellings, their very hearts.

18 As for me, I will call upon God □

and the Lord will deliver me.

19 In the evening and morning and at noonday

I will pray and make my supplication, □

and he shall hear my voice.

20 He shall redeem my soul in peace

from the battle waged against me, □

for many have come upon me.

21 God, who is enthroned of old,

will hear and bring them down; □

they will not repent, for they have no fear of God.

22 My companion stretched out his hands against his friend □

and has broken his covenant;

23 His speech was softer than butter, though war was in his heart; □

his words were smoother than oil, yet are they naked swords.

24 Cast your burden upon the Lord and he will sustain you, □

and will not let the righteous fall for ever.

25 But those that are bloodthirsty and deceitful, O God, □

you will bring down to the pit of destruction.

26 They shall not live out half their days, □

but my trust shall be in you, O Lord.

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