

God
always
those
who
are
kind
to
the
poor
and
helpless

or they come merely to gather gossip about me,
singing all they find to mock me with malicious
hearts of slander.
They are wicked whisperers who imagine the
worst for me.

repeating their rumors, saying,
"He got what he deserved; it's over for him.
The spirit of infirmity is upon him and
he'll never get over this illness."
Even my ally, my friend, has turned against me.
He was one I totally trusted with my bread,
sharing supper with him,
and now he shows me nothing but betrayal and
treachery.

He has sold me as an enemy.
10 So Lord, please don't desert me when I need
you!

Give me grace and get me back on my feet
so I can triumph over them all.

11 Then I'll know you're pleased with me
when you allow me to taste of victory over all my
foes.

12 Now stand up for me, Lord, or I'll let me fall,
for I've walked with integrity.
Keep me before your face, Lord.

a 41:8 Cf. "a thing of Belial," or "an affliction from the abandoned one."
b 41:9 In the culture of that time, sharing a meal together was a sign of covenant friendship.
c 41:9 The Hebrew literally reads, "He tied up his heel against me." This is a powerful Hebrew idiom of speech meaning "he was sold as an enemy" and "was betrayed treacherously." This verse was quoted, in part, by Jesus at the Last Supper (John 13:18).

