

Psalme 38

A iuft man in remediles perfecution refolueth to fuffer al with peace and filence: 5. praying God to take him from this world, confeffing the vanitie therof, 8. and relying on Gods prouidence (11. who punisheth man for his finnes) prayeth for releafe.

Gods
prouidence.
The 3. key.

Vnto ^a)the end, to ^b)Idithun him felfe, a canticle of Dauid.

I ^c)haue faid: I wil keepe my waies: that I offend not in my tongue.

I haue fet a gard to my mouth, when the finner ftood againft me.

³I was dumme and humbled, and kept filence ^d)from good things: and ^e)my forrow was renewed.

⁴ My ^f)hart waxed hote within me: and in my meditation a fyre shal burne.

⁵ I haue fpoken in my tongue: Lord ^g)make mine end knowne to me.

And the number of my daies what it is: that I may know what is lacking to me.

⁶ Behold thou haft put my daies meafurable, and my ^h)fubftance is as nothing before thee.

Doubtles al things are vanitie, euerie man liuing.

^a Some expound this Pfalme of the Iewes in captiuitie in Babylon, but this title, and the matter conteyned shew, that it rather pertaineth to the new Teftament.

^b To be fongue by Idithun and his fcholars & fucceffors, or rather by Chriftianes.

^c Weake men in affliction not able to deliuer them felues, feeke reuenge, by murmuring and other euil fpèches, but the perfect refolue to rule their tongues:

^d euen to forbearre fometimes from their owne iuft defence:

^e though therby they indure more perfecution.

^f Sorow fuppreffed maketh the hart to burne with zeale, and indignation.

^g If it may pleafe thee let me know how long I shal liue, defiring to dye, as Elias defired. *3. Reg. 19.*

^h My life and al that I haue is as nothing compared to thy eternitie.

7 Surely man passeth as ^a)an image; yea and he is troubled ^b)in vayne.

He gathereth treasure; and knoweth not to whom he shall gather them.

8 And now what is my expectation? is not our Lord? and my substance is with thee.

9 From all mine iniquities deliver me: ^c)a reproach to the foolish thou hast given me.

10 I was dumb, and opened not my mouth, ^d)because thou didst it: 11 Remove thy scourges from me.

12 By the strength of thy hand I have fainted in reprehensions: for iniquity thou hast chastised man.

And thou hast made his ^e)foul pyne away as a spider: but vainly is every man troubled.

13 Hear my prayer ô Lord, and my petition; with thine ears receive my tears. Keep not silence: because I am a ^f)stranger with thee, and a pilgrim, as my fathers.

14 Forget me, that I may ^g)be refreshed before I depart: and ^h)shall be no more.

^a As a shadow or image appearing in a glass, which is quickly forgotten.

^b Therefore there is no cause man should be troubled in mind for temporal miseries.

^c Thou hast suffered me to be reproached by the foolish that prosper in this world.

^d I know my tribulation is by thy providence.

^e My life decayeth as a spider having spent all her moisture.

^f All men are strangers in this life, heaven being our home.

^g That I may recover spiritual strength in this life:

^h after which I shall not be in state to do free works of satisfaction nor merit.