**A PRAYER from Psalm 55 adapted and personalized for Baptist spiritual workers**

**PSALM 55 A PRAYER CONCERNING DECEITFUL FRIENDS**

**Psa 55:1** Hear my prayer, O my Gracious God; don't turn away from my plea!

Psa 55:2 Listen to me and answer me; I am worn out by my worries – and worry is sin.

Psa 55:3 I am terrified by the threats of my opponents, crushed by the oppression of wicked MEN. They bring trouble on me; these MEN are angry with me and hate me.

Psa 55:4 I am terrified, and the terrors of death crush me.

Psa 55:5 I am gripped by fear and trembling; I am overcome with horror.

Psa 55:6 I wish I had wings like a dove. I would fly away and find rest.

Psa 55:7 I would fly far away and make my home in the desert.

Psa 55:8 I would hurry and find myself a shelter from the raging wind and the storm.

Psa 55:9 Confuse the speech of my enemies, O Lord! I see violence and riots in my city of - - - -,

Psa 55:10 surrounding it day and night, filling it with crime and trouble.

Psa 55:11 There is destruction everywhere; the streets are full of oppression and fraud.

Psa 55:12 If it were a ridiculing opponent making fun of me, I could endure it; if it were a hellish antagonist boasting over me, I could hide myself from him.

Psa 55:13 But it is you, my companion, my colleague and close friend.

Psa 55:14 We had intimate talks with each other and worshiped together in the House of Prayer.

Psa 55:15 May my attackers die before their time; may they go down alive into the world of the dead! Evil is in their homes and in their hearts.

Psa 55:16 But I call to the LORD Jesus, my Savior God for help, and he will save me.

Psa 55:17 Morning, noon, and night my complaints and groans go up to him, and he, Jesus, will hear my voice.

Psa 55:18 He, Jesus, will bring me safely back from the battles that I fight against so many rebellious MEN.

Psa 55:19 God the Righteous One, who has ruled from eternity, will hear me and defeat them; for they refuse to change, and they do not fear him.

Psa 55:20 My former companion attacked his friends; he broke his promises.

Psa 55:21 His words were smoother than cream, but there was hatred in his heart; his words were as soothing as oil, but they cut like sharp swords.

Psa 55:22 Leave your troubles with the precious LORD Jesus, and he will defend you; he never lets honest believers be defeated.

Psa 55:23 But you, O God our Holy Judge, will bring those murderers and liars to their graves and Hell before half their life is over. As for me, I will trust in you!