

# Psalm 40:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

I have preached righteousness in the great congregation: lo, I have not refrained my lips, O LORD, thou knowest.

## Analysis

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David declares his proclamation of 'righteousness in the great congregation.' The Hebrew *tzedaqah* (righteousness) refers to God's covenant faithfulness and saving acts. The 'great congregation' (*qahal rav*) indicates public worship where testimony strengthens corporate faith. David's refrain 'I have not refrained my lips' emphasizes bold, unashamed witness.

## Historical Context

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Temple worship included public testimony of God's deliverance. This pattern of corporate witness shaped Israel's identity and later influenced early Christian practice of sharing testimonies in gathered assemblies.

## Related Passages

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**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

**1 John 4:8** — God is love

## Study Questions

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1. What prevents you from sharing God's faithfulness in the 'great congregation'?

2. How does public testimony strengthen both the one who shares and those who hear?

## Interlinear Text

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בָּשָׂרְתִּי	אֶלְאָ	לְכָלָה	בְּקָרְבָּן	בְּקָרְבָּן	הַגָּדוֹת	שְׁפָטִים
I have preached	righteousness	congregation	in the great		H2009	my lips
H1319	H6664	H6951	H7227			H8193

  

לֹא	אָכַל אָ	אָכַל אָ	אָכַל אָ	תַּדְעָתָךְ
lo I have not refrained	O LORD	H859	thou knowest	
H3808	H3068		H3045	

## Additional Cross-References

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**Psalms 22:25** (Parallel theme): My praise shall be of thee in the great congregation: I will pay my vows before them that fear him.

**Psalms 119:13** (Parallel theme): With my lips have I declared all the judgments of thy mouth.

**Hebrews 2:12** (Parallel theme): Saying, I will declare thy name unto my brethren, in the midst of the church will I sing praise unto thee.

**Psalms 22:22** (Parallel theme): I will declare thy name unto my brethren: in the midst of the congregation will I praise thee.

**Psalms 35:18** (Parallel theme): I will give thee thanks in the great congregation: I will praise thee among much people.

**Joshua 22:22** (References Lord): The LORD God of gods, the LORD God of gods, he knoweth, and Israel he shall know; if it be in rebellion, or if in transgression against the LORD, (save us not this day,) 

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