

Psalm 101

David's Pursuit of Righteousness in His Own Life and in His Kingdom

A Psalm of David.

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A1 DAVID'S INSISTENCE ON INTEGRITY IN HIS HEART 101:1-4

B1 His Praise of Yahweh's Loyal Love and Justice 101:1

C1 The Content of His Praise: {1} I will sing of lovingkindness and justice,

C2 The Object of His Praise: To You, O LORD, I will sing praises.

B2 His Commitment to Integrity Intertwined with His Yearning for Yahweh to Come to Him 101:2

C1 His Integrity: {2} I will give heed to the blameless way.

C2 His Yearning for Yahweh: When will You come to me? ¹

C3 His Integrity: I will walk within my house in the integrity of my heart.

B3 His Resolute Commitment to Integrity 101:3-4

C1 His Resolve to Ward Off Visual Temptation: {3} I will set no worthless thing before my eyes; 101:3a

C2 His Resolve Not to be Tainted by the Example of Apostates 101:3b

D1 I hate the work of those who fall away;

D2 It shall not fasten its grip on me.

C3 His Resolve to Quash a Rebellious Heart Within Him 101:4

D1 {4} A perverse heart shall depart from me;

D2 I will know no evil.

¹ 101:2 - When will you come to me? This plaintive query may refer to David's desire to bring the ark to Jerusalem, but when he used an ox cart instead of Levites to transport it, tragedy ensued, for God struck Uzzah dead (2 Sam. 6:7). David was afraid of Yahweh, and said, "How shall the ark of Yahweh come to me?" (2 Sam. 6:9) The heavy emphasis in this psalm on personal integrity may well have arisen out of that setting. David was contemplating how to bring the ark from the home of Obed-edom, where it resided. He desired to bring it to Jerusalem, but was afraid of Yahweh! His resolve in this psalm is to walk with integrity, and it likely stems from the fact that he had attempted to do God's work in man's way, and he had failed. Now he wants to stress integrity – doing God's work in God's way.

A2 DAVID'S INSISTENCE ON INTEGRITY IN HIS REGIME 101:5-7

B1 His Determination to Rid His Kingdom of Evildoers 101:5

- C1 Secret Slanderers: {5} Whoever secretly slanders his neighbor, him I will destroy;
- C2 The Arrogant: No one who has a haughty look and an arrogant heart will I endure.

B2 His Deliberate Cultivation of the Righteous to Serve in His Administration 101:6

- C1 The Faithful: {6} My eyes shall be upon the faithful of the land, that they may dwell with me;
- C2 The Blameless: He who walks in a blameless way is the one who will minister to me.

B3 His Exclusion of the Deceitful from His Regime 101:7

- C1 No Residence: {7} He who practices deceit shall not dwell within my house;
- C2 No Portfolio: He who speaks falsehood shall not maintain his position before me.

B4 His Destruction of the Wicked in the Land 101:8

- C1 The Frequency of His Purges: {8} Every morning I will destroy all the wicked of the land,
- C2 The Purpose of His Purges: So as to cut off from the city of the LORD all those who do iniquity.²

EXPANDED ANALYSIS OF PSALM 101
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October, 2010. Updated November, 2013

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² 101:8 - cut off from the city of the Lord all those who do iniquity: This was David's desire during his own administration. Realistically, this policy could never be strictly enforced, because David could never know all the evil perpetrated overnight. When Christ returns to reign upon earth, however, He will know exactly what evil has been perpetrated. Offenders will indeed be rounded up during the Millennium and summarily executed according to the standard of the Great King, who knows all (see Isa. 11:1-5)!