

Hi everyone,

I pray you are doing well, continuing on in your memorization and moving towards a deeper trust in the Lord too. As each week unfolds in Psalm 56, I feel like we are journeying farther and farther into the deep places of David's heart. Today as we look at verse 7 we are going to see a place in him that we probably recognize in ourselves. Let's take a look.

In the NASB Psalm 56:7 reads,

"Because of wickedness cast them forth, in anger put down the peoples O God."

Have you ever gotten yourself so focused on the sin of others against you that you just cry out to God to take them out? That is where we find David here. In the last two verses we have seen him fretting over his enemies in extreme ways. He is anxious. He is burdened. He is fearful. He has convinced himself that his enemies are full of wickedness and that God is just as upset about them as he is.

How do we know this? Because he tells God **"Because of wickedness cast them forth, in anger put down the peoples O God."** Were David's enemies involved in sin? Probably. Does God have anger towards sin? The Bible is clear that He does. But here is the thing, we are sinners too. When we take our eyes off the Lord, it is so easy to focus on the sin of another toward us. As we get so centered on man and what he is doing or not doing, we can get quite self righteous and forget our own sin. We can develop a self righteous attitude that basically says, "It is me and you against them God. Take them out!" When we enter that mindset, we can end up in some bleak places.

I don't believe that pleases the Lord. When our true trust is in the Lord, we trust Him to deal with our enemies in His own way. And we realize that if not for His mercy toward us, He would surely need to take us out right along with them. As we humble ourselves to trusting Him, I believe we will pray for mercy toward our enemies, that they might see God and surrender to Him. What did Jesus say about His enemies as He hung on the cross, **"Father forgive them for they do not know what they do."** (Matthew 23:34) His attitude ushered in forgiveness, righteousness and LIFE that truly reflect the Father's heart.

There is a good word for us in Psalm 56:7. When we take our eyes off of trusting the Lord, we will wander down many a crooked path. Verse 7 describes one of them as self righteousness which only arrives at a barren destination. Trusting in the Lord is so much better. Trusting in the Lord brings mercy righteousness and LIFE to us!