



**June 14, 2011 - Psalm 100:7**

Hi everyone,

I hope you are doing well. Do you realize we are on week 24 of this project? We're almost halfway through. I love that we are taking a whole year to focus in on memorizing the Psalms. All of our other projects have been about 12 weeks long, but on this one, you gotta be in it for the long haul. It's nice to just settle in with the Word and give it time to really speak, isn't it? I am learning so much from Psalm 101 about basic righteous living principles. Some of these things I generally knew, but having them specifically described in God's Word in these ways gives me a firm place to stand and live. Such good stuff! Let's give it time and let it become a part of who we are and how we think. It is so worth it. Let's look at our next verse.

In the NASB Psalm 101:7 reads,

**"He who practices deceit shall not dwell within my house.  
He who speaks falsehood shall not maintain his position before me."**

As we begin, remember we are still looking at this theme of righteous living in Psalm 101. In verse 5 it all shifted toward righteous living in regard to relationships. Verse 5 spoke about those we need to keep out of our lives. Verse 6 spoke on the subject of those we need to invite into our lives and now verse 7 will speak to how we regard those who speak falsehood and deceit.

Verse 7 begins, **"He who practices deceit shall not dwell within my house..."** This idea of **"practices"** brings with it a connotation of repetition. So the idea here is setting up boundaries with those who have a lack of integrity on a continual basis. Remember deceit doesn't have to be blatant. It can be subtle, too. Subtle deceit is what the Bible calls "guile". Blatant or subtle, deceit is still deceit! Verse 7 is clear; it is not wise to have an ongoing relationship with those who consistently walk in deceit. It will rub off on us and we will find ourselves slipping into patterns of deceitfulness as well. Righteous living is based on Truth, deceit cannot dwell there.

The second part of verse 7 says, **"He who speaks falsehood shall not maintain his position before me."** I see deceit and falsehood as siblings in the same family. The father of lies is Satan and he produces lying offspring who go about spreading these things. Falsehood is a dangerous

threat to righteous living. We have all seen how falsehood (lies) can stake its position in just general everyday matters. Although that kind of lying might offend us and cause us trouble, another kind of falsehood is much more dangerous. The more dangerous would be false statements about our God, about His Truth, about our position in His family, about our salvation, about the nature of sin and many other significant foundations of righteous living. Whenever we allow those kinds of lies to have a position or a voice in our hearts and minds, we are in a dangerous place.

David is making a twofold declaration here that we would be wise to also assert. First, certainly we should not allow people to dwell with us or have a voice in our lives who speak deceit and falsehood on a continual basis. No one wants a lying friend and no believer wants a steady stream of false accusation about the Lord in her ear. But beyond that, we must also set a boundary against Satan and his deception and falsehood which he tries to speak to us every day. Are we allowing his voice to dwell near us? Are we giving him a position before us? We can't live like that and pursue righteous living at the same time.

Setting up boundaries against deceit and falsehood... it is just right to live before the Lord in this way!



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