



June 21, 2011 - Psalm 100:8

Hi everyone,

This week we find ourselves at the end of Psalm 101. This also concludes the second quarter of our "Year in the Psalms" meaning you have made it halfway through this project. Good for you! So how have you done? No matter how you have progressed so far, be encouraged as next week is time for a fresh start. Memorizing scripture is a spiritual discipline. As with all discipline, it is a growing process that we get better and better at with practice. So press on! Focus in on this last verse of Psalm 101 and then gear up for a new start next week in Psalm 56.

In the NASB, Psalm 101:8 reads,

**"Every morning I will destroy all the wicked of the land,
so as to cut off from the city of the Lord all those who do iniquity."**

As this chapter on righteous living concludes, I just have to say I love the personal responsibility David takes for walking in righteousness. He has made declaration after declaration of what he will do to position himself in a righteous lifestyle:

- v. 1 - singing of lovingkindness and justice, singing to the Lord
- v. 2 - giving heed to the blameless way, longing for the Lord, walking in personal integrity
- v. 3 - setting no worthless thing before his eyes, hating the work of those who fall away
- v. 4 - hating perversity and evil
- v. 5 - implementing limitations in regard to ungodly people in his life
- v. 6 - dwelling intentionally with faithful and blameless people
- v. 7 - staking boundaries against falsehood and deceit

Obviously David is not entertaining a surface righteousness... he is intentionally constructing righteousness into his worship, desires, vision, preferences, relationships and beliefs.

Realizing this, it is no wonder David says what he does in verse 8. And what he says should

greatly influence us as well. When we looked at verse 5, we saw David was a king, so some of his thoughts have a "kingly" tone in the midst of them. We hear that tone in verse 8, too. We need to remember that although we are not "kings" like David, our life is like a kingdom or a city and we have authority over it.

As a king, David had authority over the land. So he begins verse 8 saying, "**Every morning I will destroy all the wicked of the land...**" He is making a declaration that when he awakens to find wickedness gaining a foothold in his kingdom he is going to destroy all of it. Why? Well a little bit of wickedness turns into more wickedness, growing and eventually having influence. David loved righteousness, so every morning all wickedness must be destroyed. I find it interesting that David doesn't say, "if I find wickedness in the land". There was no "if". He knew wickedness would be there at the beginning of each and every day and he was committing to dealing with it all of it. I like the word "all" here as well. We can't leave any wickedness, it must all be dealt with.

What about our "**kingdoms**"? Living in a sinful world, we will find wickedness amidst us every morning when we awake. There will be wickedness within and without. Others will be trying to influence us with wickedness. But within us as well, wicked thoughts of worry, despair, strife, immorality, selfishness and the like will try to rise up as our eyes open to a new day. We need to be committed to destroy it all afresh every morning! Why? Because a little bit of wickedness turns into more wickedness; growing and eventually having influence. The Bible tells us the Lord will give us the mercy to walk anew with Him in righteousness each morning. Lamentations 3 says, "**the mercies of God are new every morning.**"

In the second part of verse 8, David declares why he will destroy wickedness each morning. He says, "**so as to cut off from the city of the Lord all those who do iniquity.**" Think of the "**city of the Lord**" as your life. Then ask yourself if you truly want to be cut off from the influence of iniquity, that you may live each day for righteousness? If your answer is "yes," then knowing you have your true righteousness in the mercy of Christ and following David's example of personal responsibility towards walking that out each day in Psalm 101 is a great place to start.

Starting off each day in the mercy of the Lord and a commitment to destroy wickedness in your life... it is just right to live before the Lord in this way!



If you are just joining us in this memorization project...welcome! The weekly devotions for the previous verses are available on our website by clicking on "A Year of Psalms" on the home page.
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