



February 14, 2011 - Psalm 143:7

Hi everyone,

Can you believe we are already into week 7? Let me remind you to keep reviewing verses 1-6 as you move forward into verse 7 this week. Reviewing in this way just gives you more opportunity to solidify this whole passage in your heart. Keep at it!

Psalm 143:7 in the NASB reads:

"Answer me quickly, O Lord, my spirit fails; do not hide Thy face from me, lest I become like those who go down to the pit."

This week I am going to share some of my own musings and wonderings that come at this verse from a different angle...so stick with me. If you have some different thoughts or comments, as always, feel free to post them on our facebook page; we would love to hear from you.

I don't know about you, but personally there are times I know my thinking is just "off." What I mean is, I know the thoughts that sometimes rumble through my mind are not lined up with what God's Word says. Now, although over the years I have entertained my fair share of thoughts that are easily identifiable as sinful... immoral thoughts, bitter thoughts, etc.... that is not the kind of "off" thoughts I am referring to here. No, I am talking about thoughts that are "off" as far as how I might be thinking about God and my relationship to Him. Verse 7 is challenging me to see that when I think that way, these thoughts often invade my prayers too.

Here is why... The more I muse on verse 7, the more I believe David shared my struggle. Oh it is certainly a right thought to ask the Lord to answer us quickly...that is a cry of desperation for our God and we are all desperate for Him. But what follows in David's words just seems to be a bit "off" to me. For instance he says, "**my spirit fails.**" Can that really happen? Can our spirit fail? Not really, because our spirit is only alive if God's spirit is alive in us and God cannot fail. Our souls can certainly fail, but God's spirit within us cannot.

David also says, "**do not hide Thy face from me,**" as if God were going to ignore him or leave him. And yet we are promised throughout scripture that God is always with us and will never

leave us.

Are you following my thinking here? It seems David is crying out to the Lord with a desperate heart but he is thinking things and therefore praying about things that are not even true. Why do I bring this up? Obviously to make a point and here it is...we need to know the Truth about our God and we need to relate to Him based on that Truth. How often our thoughts are "off"...filled with things that steal our peace and rob us of faith. How often are our prayers filled with inward ramblings that are just "off"? How unnecessary. We need to be people whose thoughts and prayers are based on Truth!

For instance, how about praying and believing that our God lives within our spirit and He cannot fail! How about praying with belief that our God will always be with us no matter what!

I must confess it is a bit comforting to see this human side of David and yet to know God viewed him as one whose heart was seeking after Him. How blessed we are that God listens to our ramblings, but I know He must love it when our words are also lined up with what He says. Once again, His Word moves us onward in our relationship with Him... what a privilege.

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If you are just joining us in this memorization project...welcome! The weekly devotions for verses 1-6 are available on our website by clicking on "A Year of Psalms" on the home page.

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