



August 30, 2011 - Psalm 56:10

Hi Everyone,

It is hard to believe we are starting our 35th week in this memorization project! I have to be honest... when we began, I wondered how we would all fare over a 52 week stretch. I wondered about myself being able to consistently write devotions for that length of time and I wondered about our office consistently getting them out to everyone week in and week out. I wondered about our participants sticking with it... 52 weeks is a long time to press on and not give up. You see, in the past, our memorization projects have lasted 12 to 18 weeks at the most. Well, I am happy to report, we are in it for the long haul. God is teaching us many things as we hide His Word in our hearts. I pray you are pressing on, moving forward and not giving up, even if you have hit some challenging spots along the way. I know it isn't always easy. In fact, I'll share about that as we look at verse 10 of Psalm 56.

In the NASB, Psalm 56:10 reads:

"In God, whose Word I praise, in the LORD whose Word I praise,"

Although we will only memorize verse 10 this week, verses 10 and 11 really go together. In these verses we see David declare something that sounds quite familiar. What he says follows his statement from verse 9, "...**This I know that God is for me.**" See, once David reminded himself that God was in favor of him, he was able to state once again what sounds so similar to what he had already declared in verse 4. We might easily miss the connection if we hadn't been memorizing Psalm 56, but because we have been committing this passage to memory, verses 10 and 11 will sound quite familiar to you.

It is so good to know that God is "**for us.**" Without that knowledge we can be tossed to and fro. We can easily lose our trust in God and in His Word. But, now that David has reminded himself of this truth, his ambition to trust God rises to the surface again just as it did in verse 4. His statements in verses 10 and 11 are once again all about trust. He begins verse 10 by saying who he is trusting.

First, his trust is **"In God, whose Word I praise."** In this statement he is referring to God as "Elohim." This name for God is literally "God of gods" or "the true God." David is raising Him up and declaring that he will boast in what the true God says. See, the Hebrew word for **"praise"** here is "halal" and it literally means "to boast." Now that he knows God is for him, He will boast in the true God and in what He says.

Secondly, in verse 10 he says, **"in the LORD whose Word I praise."** In verse 4 he used the name "God" (Elohim) both times. But, now in verse 10 we see a difference. He says, **"in the LORD..."** "LORD" is the name for God that is translated "Jehovah" and literally means "self existing One." David is reminding himself of his trust in the only true God who is self existent. Again, he will boast in Him!

I see a confidence in David's declaration, a confidence I long to have. David knows who God is and he knows that God is for him. Next week in verse 11, this confidence will be confirmed even further. The question for us today is, where is our confidence? Do we know our God? On this day, can we make these kind of bold statements, as well?

In all honestly, I have been struggling lately. Struggling to trust God. Struggling to see Him as faithful. It would be easy for me to be tossed to and fro in these challenges and at times I feel I am. But Psalm 56 is reminding me that it helps to know these Truths about God even when I don't always feel their influence in my life. Verses 9-11 are challenging me to believe that what God says is true. He is for me!

I pray as I believe, I can make these same confident statements in Elohim and Jehovah just as David did. I pray that meditating on His favor toward me will give me confidence to boast in the strong Word of the One in whom I genuinely long to always place my trust.

There is a good word for us in Psalm 56:10. We can trust in Elohim, the only true God. He is Jehovah, the self existent One. We can make great boast in what He says to us today!



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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