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Psalm 101

(2019)

Bible House of Grace contains an easy to read New and Old Testament commentary full of spiritual treasures and pearls, complete with an insightful resource guide illuminating God's love and grace.



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Bible
at Home

Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man, as to such I neither claim perfect knowledge or perfect understanding.

Psalm 101.

Topics.

- Oh, when will you come to me? A perverse heart shall be far from me.
- Whoever walks in the way that is blameless shall minister to me.

FOR INFORMATION: concerning people, places and the meaning of words see the title: "Map Locations and People of the Bible," and the title: "Bible Dictionary" on Website Menu.

INTRODUCTION

Psalms are songs and prayers offered to God by the nation Israel, they cover the range of human emotion, expressing praise, faith, victory, sorrow, despair, depression, frustration and the troubled heart of a mourner. They contrast the righteous with the wicked, and include the wisdom and the treasure of God's word. Psalms were written at the beginning of the 15th century BC and probably collected in their final form in the 3rd century.

BOOK FOUR (PSALM 90-106)

PSALM 101:1-4

A Psalm of David.

1

When will You Come to Me? A Perverse Heart shall be Far from Me.

- **Psalm 101:1-4:** I will sing of steadfast love and justice; to you, O LORD, I will make music. ²I will ponder the way that is blameless. Oh when will you come to me? I will walk with integrity of heart within my house; ³I will not set before my eyes anything that is worthless. I hate the work of those who fall away; it shall not cling to me. ⁴A perverse heart shall be far from me; I will know nothing of evil.

David may have written this Psalm after his sin with Bathsheba and the planned murder of her husband, but it could apply to many circumstances and by extension to everyone who trusts and loves God, but feels forsaken. The words, "Oh LORD when will you come to me?" (v2) shows that David feels that God has forsaken him. He is desperately praying that God would draw near to him once again. Some might ask "In what way would David know that God had forsaken him?" The answer to this question is by withdrawing His presence of love. As one travels through David's Psalms it becomes very clear that the thing David valued most in his life was the steadfast love of the LORD. It is certain God withdrew his love from David during his affair with Bathsheba and his plotting to have her husband Uriah killed in battle. This does not mean God stopped loving David, but that God's Spirit cannot dwell in a heart that is filled with such corruption. It could be likened to parents who have a rebellious son, they will discipline him by removing from him the things he values most, but this does not mean that they do not love their son, it simply means that they are attempting to change his life for the better and set him on the right path to prevent him from getting into greater trouble. Likewise, God does the same for those He loves.

David says:

- He will walk with integrity of heart: (v2) meaning all that he does, he will do honestly and truthfully.

- Not set his eyes on anything that is wrong: (v3) meaning he will never again lust upon a married woman or have an affair with another man's wife.
- Hate the work of those who fall away: (v3) meaning he will have nothing to do with those who consciously and deliberately turn away from the faith of Israel and God's statutes, commands and laws.
- Will have nothing to do with a perverse heart or evil: (v4) meaning that from this point onward he would not only have no contact with those who actually did works of wickedness, immorality and violence, but would also have nothing to do with those whose heart was rebellious and defiant toward God and His laws and statutes.

Should anyone wonder how they can serve the LORD in faithfulness and at the resurrection hear the words of their Master say: -

- Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master. (Matt. 25:21).

They should endeavour to do all that David is telling God he will set his heart, his mind and his life to do when God comes to him. The faithful servant is one who meditates upon the way that is blameless, loving honest and just, it means walking with integrity of heart and not setting the eyes on things that are wrong and singing songs of praise before the LORD and making joyful music to Him with a clear conscience.

PSALM 101:5-8

Whoever walks in the Way that is Blameless shall Minister to Me.

- **Psalm 101:5-8:** Whoever slanders his neighbour secretly I will destroy. Whoever has a haughty look and an arrogant heart I will not endure. ⁶I will look with favour on the faithful in the land, that they may dwell with me; he who walks in the way that is blameless shall minister to me. ⁷No one who practices deceit shall dwell in my house; no one who utters lies shall continue before my eyes. ⁸Morning by morning I will destroy all the wicked in the land, cutting off all the evildoers from the city of the LORD.

2

In the New Testament Paul wrote:

- The works of the flesh are: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, ²⁰idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, ²¹envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. (Gal. 5:19-26).

And here in the Old Testament we read of David saying he will not endure:

- Those who slander their neighbour secretly (meaning behind their backs).
- Those who are prideful and have an arrogant heart.
- Those who are deceitful and who speak lies.
- Those who practise wickedness and works of evil.

This clearly shows that though the Old and New Testament use different language both the faithful of the old and the faithful of the new clearly understood what attitudes were of the Spirit of God and what attitudes were of the flesh. In verse six David says: "He will look with favour on the faithful who walk in the way that is blameless" (v6). Blameless in this context does not mean without sin if it was possible for any of us to achieve the glorious state of a sin-free life while in this mortal and fallen body then Christ died for no purpose rather the word, blameless carries the following two ideas:

1. To live a lifestyle that honours God and the name of the Lord Jesus Christ which means forsaking those things that are against God's will and behaviour that could bring hurt and harm to another human physically, financially, sexually, emotionally, mentally or spiritually and instead of being led by self, ego, pride, lust and greed be filled with the fruits of the Spirit (i.e., love, compassion, kindness, forgiveness, patience, grace, mercy and such like things).
2. By faith we solely trust in Christ's righteousness to be saved and not our own self-righteousness and in God's grace, contrasted to trusting in self-effort or adhering to ceremonial rites, holy days and keeping religious customs and traditions. It means crowning our biblical knowledge in the royal robes of love contrasted to being harsh, dogmatic and legalistic. It is doing as much as is in our power to maintain the unity of the faith in contrast to causing divisions, arguments, contentions and strife. Being blameless means confessing our sin before the Lord, repenting when we have offended God or hurt another person especially a brother or sister in the Lord and putting things right where possible when a wrong has been done.

Paul told his disciples to do all things without grumbling and questioning so that:

- They may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom they shine as lights in the world (Philippians 2:14-15).

This is not talking about being without sin we know this because the Lord Jesus Christ is the only man who has ever been without sin. The focus is not being without sin, but being blameless in the world's eyes or by the world's standards. Paul says those who are humble, obedient and do, not grumble, murmur, complain or cause divisions and who without question do what is lawful and right will be counted innocent and blameless in the world.

NOTICE: this is the famous teenager, the shepherd boy who took on the giant Goliath with only a few stones, the powerful King David the mighty warrior who even God said had been a man of war. In some battles that David and Israel fought over twenty-thousand men of war were killed in one day. Yet in this Psalm we see a man with a tender spirit who loves the LORD and desperately desires to again know God's comfort and His love. If a man of this strength, this stature, this bravery and such fame needs God to sustain his life, Christians should never feel intimidated when they are accused by the unbelieving scoffers and mockers of being weak and needing a crutch to survive the grief's, hardships and troubles of life.

As the founder of Bible House of Grace, I would like to thank the many Christian scholars, commentators and theologians who have gone before me, and the many today, who have freely made available their works to enhance the knowledge of the Bible to all people worldwide. It is only with the help of these faithful writers that much of Bible House of Grace exists as it does today.
