

**August 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> 2023**

**Triumphant Tuesday and Wisdom Wednesday**

**Bible Study**

**Psalm 101**

**Rosie Seals**

### **Introduction**

It is believed that David had recently become King when he wrote Psalm 101. The Psalm is titled The Psalm of David. (The song chosen- Order My Steps in Your Word) The word “ordered” means to “make firm and to establish.” David is making firm statements; establishing the precepts in which he wanted for himself and his kingdom to follow. Before, David became king, he was anointed three times

First anointing to become king of Israel; anointing from God Himself- by way of prophet Samuel per instruction from God (**1 Samuel 16:13**).

Second anointing to be king of Judah (**2 Samuel 2:4**). David was from the lineage of Judah, the family line of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Third anointing - David was anointed to be accepted as king of Israel by the elders of Israel, (**2 Samuel 5:3**)

David had been anointed by God to become the king of Israel; David had the heart to be king, but he also needed to acquire the character of a king. David was the youngest of 8 brothers, he was responsible for tending the sheep; not sure of David’s age at time of his anointing to be king of Israel; he was probably between the age of 12 to 15. David was 30 years old when he became King. David reign was for 40 years, it was known as one of the highest and most prosperous periods in Israel’s history, many called it “The Golden Age” of Israel. In between the time of David’s first and third, anointing, David’s daily life experiences prepared him for his purpose. David was trained and strategically fit for being King of Israel. (**1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel** provides the details of David journey to the throne)

Many people have been appointed by God, but they need time to be trained and to acquire the right character for their assignment. Becoming what God has called

us to be is not an overnight process. We need to be proven to be fit for the appointment; **2 Timothy 2:15**, AMP read, **“Study and do your best to present yourself to God approved, a workman (tested by trial) who has no reason to be ashamed, accurately handling and skillfully teaching the word of truth.”**

**Therefore, believers, be all the more diligent to make certain about His calling and choosing you {be sure that your behavior reflects and confirms your relationship with God}; for by doing these things (actively developing these virtues), you will never stumble (in your spiritual growth and will live a life that leads others away from sin}. 2 Peter 1:10 AMP**

As I stated earlier, David just ascended to the throne. The abuses and confusions of Saul’s last years had to be reformed. Read **Psalm 78, verses 56-72 TPT**.

Before David took the throne over all Israel, he had a lot of time to think about what kind of king he would be. The writing of Psalm 101 could be known as David’s legacy planning. Did he always succeed in living like this? No-sometimes he failed. But these resolutions express the desires of David’s heart. It reflects the kind of man David wanted to be. **Acts 13:22** reads from The Passion Translation, **“After removing him, God raised up David to be king, for God said of him, ‘I have found in David, son of Jesse, a man who always pursues my heart and will accomplish all that I have destined him to do.’”**

**Psalm 101 consists of 8 verses; it will be outlined as follows:**

**Holiness in Private (V1-4)**

**Holiness in Public (V5-8)**

David makes it plain that as King he will wield the sword of his office strongly in two directions. On the one hand, David promises he will come down hard against those who give themselves to vices of any kind. Vices, meaning slanderers, the arrogant, the deceitful, the liars, the wicked; to sum it up, whatever not pleasing to God. He will not let them get away with wicked works; and as he appoints people in every area throughout his administration; he will see to it that none of the wicked will labor alongside him in positions of power over the people.

On the other hand, David promises to look in favor or look with a wholehearted trust on the faithful in the land. It is this group who live lives characterized by

virtues not vices. Virtue meaning morally good, doing what is right and avoiding what is wrong; to sum it up, doing what is pleasing in the eyes of God. It is this group of people who live life as he does. When reviewing his firm statements made in Psalm 101, we can conclude that David, as he begins his reign deeply desires and promises to be a just and holy King.

Psalm 101

### **Holiness in Private (V1-4)**

***V 1 I will sing of your love and justice, Lord. I will praise you with songs***

Here in the first verse, David is singing of God's unconditional love and justice; justice, meaning treatment of God, faithfulness of God. David starts this Psalm out with song of praise as a message to us to say Hey! This is how to start your day, sing to the Lord, sing of the Lord. Sing to God from your heart, your focus is only on God, only God is your audience, our Father delights in our worship of Him.

**Psalm 108:1 NLT reads, "my heart is confident in you, O God; no wonder I can sing your praises with all my heart!"**

David put his vow into a song, that he might keep it in his own mind and frequently repeat it, and that it might be communicated to others and preserved in his family, for a pattern to his sons and successors.

David knows that God is not only a god of love, but a God of judgement as well. David is aware that the blessings from God come when we let go and let God be Lord of all. To stay in the blessings, David, the same as believers today, must stay in the will of God. The songs that David sings are for the ears of God. Jesus taught, that to pray in secret just for God's ears, brought great pleasure to God. You will find that praise given in private just to God, brings Him much pleasure as well.

The day always goes better when it started out with spending time with God. God has promised that, if we follow His commands, He will bless our obedience; obey God and leave all the consequences to Him. Spending time with God is essential; now essential means, something that you cannot do without; where as important

means less urgent although still needed, therefore it is essential to spend quality time with God. Seek God's guidance that he has for you daily, thank Him for giving us this day our daily bread; daily bread, these words show us that God really knows best what we need in every moment in our lives. Daily bread is not just the necessities of life, such as food, clothing, shelter (which yes these are important). We can die spiritually from lack of spending quality time with our Father in heaven. **"Man does not live by bread alone, but by every word that come forth from the mouth of God (Matt 4:4).** We must feed on the Word of God daily, maintain a healthy appetite for the Word of God, eat the Word, pray the Word, read the Word, talk the Word daily in our homes, do not just pick up our bibles and wipe the dust off when time to go to the sanctuary. Let the image that we portrait in the privacy of our home of our spending quality time with God become a praise song to our Father in heaven.

***V 2 I will be careful to live a blameless life – when will you come to help me? I will lead a life of integrity in my own home.***

David begins with himself, he ponders how to live a blameless life; ponder means, to carefully think about something, to meditate on before a decision is made or reaching a conclusion. David reviews his own character and conduct privately and publicly. David declares to live a blameless life within his own home; he knows this is beyond his own doing. David cries out to the Lord for help for he knows this can only be done with the divine presence and help of the Lord.

It is the divine presence of God that makes an ordinary home an extraordinary home and the common an uncommon, because God always acts in a righteous manner because His nature is holy. When we are called to be holy, it does not mean that we share in God's divine glory, but that we are to be different from our normal fallen sinfulness. We are called to mirror and reflect the moral character and activity of God. We are to imitate His goodness. **Isaiah 42:8 NLT states "I am the Lord; that is my name! I will not give my glory to anyone else, nor share my praise with carved idols."**

David speaks on leading a life of integrity in his home, all believers should choose to live a life of integrity (leaders or not) **Titus 2:7 NLT reads; And you yourself must be an example to them by doing good works of every kind. Let everything you do reflect the integrity and seriousness of your teaching.** David's righteous

life had to be real in his conduct within his own house before it could be lived in his kingdom, publicly.

Now blameless, does not mean sinless; we know that David's heart wanted to please God in all things, but we also know that David sinned, because he answered the call of his flesh. David had an affair with another man's wife (Bathsheba) and David arranged the murder of her husband. David later confessed his sin in **2 Samuel 12:13** and prayed for mercy in **Psalms 51** and **verse 10** David states **"create in me a clean heart, O Lord. Renew a loyal spirit within me. Romans 3:23** states, in the **NLT**, **"For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard."**

Ask God to cultivate our heart and mind; why did I use the word cultivate, because that old ground (old heart within us) needs to be broken up, all that old dirt needs to be removed and replaced, with the newness of life, **Romans 6:4 NLT** **"For we died and were buried with Christ by baptism. And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives."** AMP states **"abandoning our old ways"**

Believers today should have integrity whether we are leaders or not. What is integrity? In short, staying true to the teachings of Christ; it is not just about being honest but also fulfilling responsibilities that we have been assigned and following through with whatever promises we have made.

Our homes should be the proving ground of our Christianity; and we should keep in mind that our time spent with God in private prepares us for our public.

If the walls of our homes could testify about us, would it proclaim that of holiness? Are we meek as lambs among others, but when at home we are so totally different, patient in public and angry in private, disciplined in public and unrestrained in private, loving, and gracious in public and rude and ill-tempered in private. Where God is not, there all things are scattered and in confusion. **Isaiah 32:18 NIV** states, **"My people will live in peaceful dwelling places, in secure homes, in undisturbed places of rest."**

***V 3 I will refuse to look at anything vile and vulgar. I hate all who deal crookedly; I will have nothing to do with them.***

David knew that a part of his righteous life was what he chose to set before his eyes. There are many wicked things to set the eyes upon. The lust of the eyes is a significant part of the lure of this world. **Job 31:1** in the AMP reads **“I have made a covenant (agreement) with my eyes; How then could I gaze (lustfully) at a virgin?** Now the title in the AMP translation for chapter 31 of Job is listed as “Job asserts his integrity, **asserts** means, to state a fact or belief confidently and **forcefully**. Job **forced** himself, not to look. Do we as Christians **force** ourselves not to look at anything that’s not pleasing to God, certain TV programs, movies, certain Facebook or Instagram posts?

We know that David had a weakness in this area (**2 Samuel**); but just because David failed in this area, it doesn’t mean that standards for David was different from anyone else in his kingdom. Psalms 101 was for David’s personal household and his kingdom.

**1 John 2:16** tells us **NLT “For the world offers only a craving for physical pleasure, a craving for everything we see, and pride in our achievements and possessions. These are not from the Father, but are from this world.**

Immorality, wickedness, brutality, pornography and any type of evil is so easily accessible to gratify lust and desire for perverted pleasure. However, those who claim to love the Lord will be tested by how much they hate evil while living on this earth. A true believer, made one with Christ and rest in the Holy Spirit, will love what God loves and hate what God hates.

David mentioned hating all who deal crookedly; they left the high road of integrity, by short cuts and twists, supposedly accomplishing work for their masters, but David would not employ such, he loathed the practices of men who deviated from righteousness. This same principle holds for our everyday lives; receiving too much change from cashier, do you give it back, changing your mind about purchasing a carton of milk when you have left that section of the store, do you take it back to where it belongs?

In each of our history crooked things will turn up, for we are all imperfect; our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ is the only perfect one. We are all on different levels of this Christian journey; therefore, we are all under construction, being transformed.

**James 4:17 NLT, “remember, it is sin to know what you ought to do and then not do it.”**

***V 4 I will reject perverse ideas and stay away from every evil.***

David stated that he will reject perverse ideas and stay away from every evil; David begins by searching his own heart. David refused close association with those who might influence him to do evil; however, we must strive to be the best example of holiness especially to those that are lacking in faith. **Isaiah 30:12-13 MSG, says this about having perverse ideas, “therefore, the Holy of Israel says this: “Because you scorn this Message, preferring to live by injustice and shape your lives on lies, this perverse way of life will be like a towering, badly built wall that slowly, slowly tilts and shifts, and then one day, without warning, collapses – smashed to bits like a piece of pottery, smashed beyond recognition or repair, useless, a pile of debris to be swept up and thrown in the trash.”**

Pride and self-importance cause people to seem wise in their own estimation and therefore be arrogantly confident in their own ideas. Wisdom and truth are formed by accepting what God has said and revealed in all of Scripture. Honestly acknowledge the potential for deceit within our hearts, do not automatically assume that our own standards of right and wrong are God’s standards. Check it out with God; make it a habit of checking to see what the Word says about everything.

**Jeremiah 17:9 states, “the heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it?** The only remedy is to experience God’s grace, be born again through faith in Christ and receive a new heart-one that hates evil and delights in doing God’s will; one of my daily scriptures is **Psalms 51:10** the Passion translation reads: **“Keep creating in me a clean heart. Fill me with pure thoughts and holy desires, ready to please you.”**

Stay away from every evil; a perverse heart has twisted ideas. Its affections are warped and the choices it makes will inevitably be evil. A person of this mindset should not be included within your inner circle of friends. If by chance we make a mistake and let them in, have the conviction and courage to distance the relationship.

**1 Corinthians 15:33 TPT reads: “So stop fooling yourselves! Evil companions will corrupt good morals and character.**

Holiness in Public V5-8)

***V 5 I will not tolerate people who slander their neighbors. I will not endure conceit and pride.***

Slander is defined as a false verbal statement that causes damage to another person’s reputation.

James 3:5b-7 reads in the MSG translation, “It only takes a spark, remember, to set off a forest fire. A careless or wrongly placed word out of your mouth can do that. By our speech we can ruin the world, turn harmony to chaos, throw mud on a reputation, send the whole world up in smoke and go up in smoke with it, smoke right from the pit of hell. Now this is scary: You can tame a tiger, but you can’t tame a tongue.”

Now the tongue can cause a lot of damage; how many times have you made the statement “**I probably shouldn’t say this but**” when we make that statement, that is an indication that the Holy Spirit is saying, **shut your mouth.**

The tongue is humanly untamable.

Believe it or not the tongue is productive, producing life or death. Submitting our tongues to the Holy Spirit daily, will ensure a high production in the sharing of the word of God.

**Proverbs 10:20 NIV – The tongue of the righteous is choice silver, but the heart of the wicked is of little value.**

The Bible condemns sins of conversations that harm others; any kind of talk that defames the character of another person must be resisted. Discussion or exposing of another’s misdeeds should only take place if it is with a sincere motive to help that person or to protect others and God’s kingdom.

Charles Spurgeon (1834 – 1892) once called Psalm 7 the “Song of the Slandered Saint.” David was the author of Psalm 7. David stated that he will not tolerate people who slander. David was frequently the victim of slander. Through David,



God reveals in Psalm 7, seven lessons for how a believer should respond to a slanderous attack:

#1) dependence – David depended upon God for protection by seeking refuge in Him, we are to depend on God, not ourselves.

#2) surrender – although he was innocent of the charges against him, David turned to God to exonerate him instead of taking the matter into his own hands. God also wants us to surrender our right to fight back, give it to God

#3) prayer – David cried out to God to deliver him; God also wants us to petition Him through prayer for deliverance.

#4) trust – David trusted God to bring justice to his situation; God also wants us to trust Him to ensure a just and fair resolution to any situation.

#5) faith – David also showed his faith in God to deliver him instead of trying to fight back, trust God to deliver instead of taking matters into our own hands.

#6) love – God wants us to respond to our attacker with love.

#7) praise/thanks – David praise and thanked God because he knew in advance that God would deliver him; praise and thank God while we are waiting for deliverance.

David stated that he will not endure conceit and pride, not among his servants nor, employ those that are wicked. David is looking for the humble not the proud.

It was pride that cause satan to be cast out of heaven; he is directly opposed to being humble, God fearing, meek, trusting, faith filled; in short, the devil is oppose to everything that is pleasing to God. God resists the proud because the proud resist God. Pride comes at a high price; do not pay it!

**James 4:6, TPT; But he continues to pour out more and more grace upon us. For it says, “God resists you when you are proud but continually pours out grace when you are humble.**

Now conceit is the opposite of humility; C S Lewis definition says “Humility is not thinking less of myself. Humility is thinking of myself less.” The conceited think of themselves constantly. We must put into practice **John 3:30 NLT, God must become greater and greater, and I must become less and less.**

Conceit is also at the root of most sins because we choose to please ourselves instead of pleasing God or helping someone else. **Philippians 2:3 instructs us to “do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves.** By faith we can develop a healthy self-image that blesses the Lord and those that we are in contact with daily.

***V 6 I will search for faithful people to be my companions. Only those who are above reproach will be allowed to serve me.***

David is seeking out all those who are faithful within the city and bringing them near him. These people are not only fit for positions beside him, they are fit to dwell with him in his house, these people make up his inner court, his counselors, his generals, and his mighty men.

David refused to look to or at those who thought themselves better than others. David wanted only those that was above reproach. David says in **Psalm 12:1 NLT “Help, O Lord, for the godly are fast disappearing! The faithful have vanished from the earth!**

Christ’s eyes are upon faithful persons, on faithful ministers of the word, who preach the Gospel faithfully, faithful to the souls of men in watching over them reproving and exhorting them. His eyes are also on the faithful members of churches, the ones that truly believe in him, who holds fast the faithful word and worship, his eyes are upon us to show favor, blessings, to protect, defend and preserve us from perishing.

**1 Corinthians 1:9 states, “God will do this, for he is faithful to do what he says, and he has invited you into partnership with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Surround yourself with people who will be positive influences and lead you closer to God. Choose as your closest companions those who are faithful to God and his Word.

David wants people around him who love the lord as he does. He knows that people who love God have good morals. They will be loyal to David as they have been loyal to their God. David expects no more from his servants than he is willing to be himself.

***V 7 I will not allow deceivers to serve in my house, and liars will not stay in my presence.***

David stated that deceivers nor liars will not be allowed in his house nor in his presence. David knew that no kingdom would last on a foundation of lies and deceit. A truthful man, such as David, cannot tolerate people around him who are not truthful. As for liars, deceivers, and cheats, they will not be found on the king's payroll. Deceptions is a tool of the devil and satan goes to work whenever a lie moves in.

I am looking at liars and deceivers as twins; their end results are mostly the same, personal gain.

What is a deceiver? A person that caused someone to believe something that is not true, typically in order to gain some personal advantage.

What is a liar? A person who tells lies – a person who will make a false statement with deliberate intention to deceive.

**John 8:44 TPT, “You are the offspring of your father, the devil, and you serve your father very well, passionately carrying out his desires. He’s been a murderer right from the start! He never stood with the truth, for he’s full of nothing but lies-lying is his native tongue. He is a master of deception and the father of lies!**

**Best example of a liar – 1 John 2:22-23 NLT reads, “And who is a liar? Anyone who says that Jesus is not the Christ. Anyone who denies the Father and the Son is an antichrist. Anyone who denies the Son doesn’t have the Father, either. But anyone who acknowledges the Son has the Father also.”**

**Best example of a deceiver – 2 John 1:7 MSG, “There are a lot of smooth-talking con artists loose in the world who refuse to believe that Jesus Christ was truly human, a flesh-and blood human being. Give them their true title: Deceiver! Antichrist!**

**Proverb 12:22 MSG “God can’t stomach liars; he loves the company of those who keep their word.”**

***V 8 My daily task will be to ferret out the wicked and free the city of the Lord from their grip.***

David is determined to have the land that he reigns over, a land of only godly people. Jerusalem, was thought of by David as being a holy city, and he would not tolerate evil in the city of God. David took on a daily task to **ferret out** the wicked. Now it is interesting that the word **ferret** was used; **ferret** has been referred to as a small domesticated animal of the weasel family; currently they are kept as pets, by some; but in past centuries they were used to hunt rabbits, rats, and other vermin, the **ferrets** were used to drive out the animals that was being hunted from their underground burrows; therefore, **ferrets** are persistent searchers. This is what David was doing, persistently searching, flushing out the wicked, finding the wicked and bringing them to justice.

Now David being an Eastern king, they often administered justice in the early mornings at the city gate, as it is mentioned (**2 Samuel 15:2**). The people brought cases before the king for judgment. The city gate was a central location for important business transactions, courts were convened and public announcements were made. The king was determined to see that all forms of wickedness were dealt with promptly and sternly. **2 Samuel 8:15, "So David reigned over all Israel and did what was just and right for all his people."**

Jerusalem was known as the city of God, the city that God loved most, and David did not want to blemish that reputation. Even today, it is still thought of as being the holy city of God. It is the interest of the city of the Lord (Zion) to be purged from wicked doers. I am sure **that you haven't forgotten that your body is now the sacred temple of the Spirit of Holiness, who lives in you? You don't belong to yourself any longer, for the gift of God, the Holy Spirit, live inside your sanctuary. (1 Cor 6:19)**

We should strive to be, **those who are clean-whose works and ways are pure, whose hearts are true and sealed by the truth, those who never deceive, whose words are sure (Psalm 24:4)**. We as Christians are to live out the Ethics of the Kingdom of God; we are to be salt and light to a wicked and darkened world as we share and show forth the gospel of Christ through the example of our daily lives.

Take heed to yourselves because there are many eyes upon you. People are indeed watching, not only the wicked, but the spirit filled as well. Let them see a person of integrity; let them see Jesus in you; in the privacy of your home and in public.

Resources:

The Bible, TPT-NLT- MSG

The Full Life Study Bible

Psalms – Volume Three – David Guzik

Warren W Wiersbe – Exposition Commentary

Believer’s Bible Commentary – Second Edition – William Macdonald