

Part 3 – Those Who Dwell with Christ

In part 2 we learned of David's promise that he would not give partiality (in judgment or otherwise) to those who did wickedly, which is *often* how kings rule *and* judge. And then we saw David also promise he wouldn't focus, or concentrate, on anything wicked. He was fully committed to keeping his own 'inner man' (heart and mind) 'perfect' (upright, #8537) as well as working to enforce God's Laws in the nation, Israel. And, this is why He's a 'type' of the *true* 'King' of Israel, Jesus Christ. But, we should remember that **if** we want to be accepted by Jesus Christ (i.e. allowed to govern the world with Him, when He returns, Rev 20:4-6) we **must** also be committed to hating the 'wicked thing' (which is essentially apostasy and idolatry) and not allow any of that filth to have any impact upon us. And, when we fall short (as we all do at times, Rom 3:23) we must do as David did, and make a good repentance, which also means to work hard to clean up our ways, from the inside out. And David also promised that he would 'turn off' (keep away from him) a 'froward heart', i.e. a perverse (crooked) heart, which is a vital part of truly worshiping, and serving, our Heavenly Father. And, in the New Testament, Paul calls this putting off the 'old man' (i.e. the forward heart) and putting on the 'new man' (an upright heart). Again, that's what we should work to do as well.

And then, David also promised that: *I will not know a wicked person*. And this is best summed up in James 4:4, which tells us that *friendship of the world is enmity with God* and thus, *whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God*. So, while we are sent into the world to serve Jesus Christ – and help Him to bring His wayward children back to God – we are not to be 'friends' with them. Why? Because doing so **will eventually** turn our love, and loyalty, *away from* our Heavenly Father. And while this doesn't mean we can't help unbelievers, work with them or be around them at times, we should be very careful about actually being friends with them because **we cannot have dual loyalties**. As the old saying goes 'birds of a feather flock together', i.e. ***you will become like the friends*** (those who you hang out, and fellowship, with) ***you choose***, whether you want to admit it or not. So, keeping our Heavenly Father as the most important person in our life – and serving Him as the most important duty in our life – is truly what pleases our Heavenly Father. Again, while that's what David committed himself to do in this Psalm, it's what we *should do as well*. But, David still is not yet done giving promises to the Lord (YHVH)...

Psalms 101

5 Whoso privily slandereth his neighbour, him will I cut off: him that hath an high look and a proud heart will not I suffer.

So, here again David gives more promises to the Lord (YHVH) of what he'll do as king of Israel. And this is important because, as the king, the way he ruled set the 'tone' of how the rest of the nation would behave too. When people see the wicked punished for their evils, this truly does put

the ‘fear of God’ into most of the rest of the citizenry. And, there’s two things David specifically addresses in this 5th verse. The first is that he will ‘*cut off*’ those who ‘*privily slandereth his neighbour*’. The words ‘**cut off**’ are one Hebrew word (a prim root) that means **to extirpate** (literally or figuratively) (#6789) and has also been rendered as *consume*, *destroy* and *vanish*. The *Companion Bible* (CB) renders this as ‘**destroy**’ and the *Moffett Bible* renders it as ‘**silence**’. And interestingly, even today we use the words ‘cut off’ when someone quickly (even rudely) stops another person from speaking; so that’s the thought being relayed to us here, i.e. David’s promising to silence those who ‘*privily slandereth his neighbour*’. And the word ‘**privily**’ here means **a cover** (#5643) and comes from a prim root that means **to hide by covering** (#5641). So, the word ‘**secretly**’ would probably be a better translation. And then, the word ‘**slandereth**’ means **to lick, to wag the tongue**, i.e. to **calumniate** - which means either to utter maliciously false statements, charges, or imputations about... but can *also* mean to injure the reputation of by calumny (i.e. the act of uttering false charges or misrepresentations maliciously calculated to harm another's reputation) (#3960). And then the word ‘**neighbour**’ means **an associate** (more or less close) (#7453) and an ‘associate’ simply means someone who’s *a partner, friend, or companion*.

So, David promises the Lord (YHVH) that he will silence (and punish when need be) anyone who secretly slanders (i.e. gossips about) others. And slandering people (gossiping about them) is *clearly* something the Lord (YHVH) does not like. Prov 10:18-19 says: *He that hideth hatred with lying lips, and he that uttereth a slander, is a fool. In the multitude of words there wanteth not sin: but he that refraineth his lips is wise*. And, the Bible also calls slandering (gossiping) ‘talebearing’, as in Prov 11:13, which says that *a talebearer revealeth secrets: but he that is of a faithful spirit concealeth the matter*. In other words, if you truly ‘love your neighbor as yourself’ (Lev 19:8) you won’t share the intimate information they share with you. The exception to this rule is, of course, if they committed a crime (ex: murder, theft, etc.). But, even then, we should take it to the proper authorities and not go ‘waging our tongue’ to people about it. Really, doing so is a form of a ‘kangaroo court’. And Prov 18:8 (and 26:22) also says that *the words of a talebearer are as wounds, and they go down into the innermost parts of the belly*. And also, Prov 20:19 says: *He that goeth about as a talebearer revealeth secrets: therefore meddle not with him that flattereth with his lips*. Further, Prov 26:20 also says that, *where no wood is, there the fire goeth out: so where there is no talebearer, the strife ceaseth*. So, those who secretly slander others are like wood that kindles fire, i.e. their malicious words only kindle strife. And that’s why God **hates it**. So much so, in fact, that God’s Law actually commands: *Thou shalt not go up and down as a talebearer among thy people: neither shalt thou stand against the blood of thy neighbour: I am the LORD* (Lev 19:16). The word ‘**talebearer**’ means **a scandal-monger** (as travelling about) (#7400) – which is simply what we call ‘gossip’ today. And, this applies, not only to individuals, but also to newspapers, and other news sources (social media) that openly slander others. It’s one thing to expose corruption (as true journalism is supposed to do) but slandering people to *discredit them* in the eyes of others is something God *hates*. Prov 6:16-19

tells us the six things God *hates* the most, and three of them are linked to slandering (gossip, talebearing): *a lying tongue, a false witness that speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren*. So, this is an important thing we should strive especially hard not to do. Admittedly, it is hard to refrain from gossiping, especially when you are angry, and also because most everyone does it. But, if we truly love our Heavenly Father we should strive *hard* silence gossip *instead of* ‘fuel’ it. To learn more about the great detriments that gossip has upon others, check out this special study on **Gossip** [<https://t.me/BibleStudyTruth/1038>].

But, Prov 6 also tells us another thing God *hates* is **a proud look** (Prov 6:17), which is actually what David also promises *not to put up with*, here in Ps 101:5, when he wrote: *him that hath an high look and a proud heart will not I suffer*. The word ‘**high**’ here means *lofty* (literally or figuratively, #1362) and comes from a prim root that means *to soar*, i.e. *be lofty*; figuratively, *to be haughty* (#1361). And the word ‘**look**’ means *an eye* (literally or figuratively, #5869) and has also been rendered as *countenance*. And David also said that: *a proud heart will not I suffer*. The word ‘**proud**’ here means *roomy*, in any (or every) direction, literally or figuratively (#7342) and comes from a prim root that means *to broaden* (#7337). The *Companion Bible* notes say it could even be rendered as a ‘*broad of heart*’ or a ‘*large and blatant heart*’. And our ‘**heart**’ (#3824), of course, means *the heart* but is where our ‘will’ is, i.e. our emotions, feelings, desires, motivations and intentions are (#3820). Essentially this is speaking of those who have a ‘higher opinion’ of themselves than they really should! It’s likely you’ve met this kind of person; they think they are *so much better* than anyone else. And, sadly, this often comes from self-professed Christians who think they ‘never sin’. Well, we do all sin at times, even when we try not to. As it is written, *all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God* and it’s only because of the blood Jesus Christ willingly shed to atone for our sins that we are forgiven our sins (Rom 3:23-24). And even after we’ve first come to Jesus, we will still sin. Peter was taught *by Jesus Christ* for three years but *still denied him* (three times) when Jesus was on trial (Matt 26:73-75); yet Jesus Christ forgave him *because* he was sincerely repentant. And that’s what we must do too (i.e., repent sincerely when we fall short and strive to *better* obey our Heavenly Father).

But we cannot forget that we all sin and truly, *that’s* what should keep us humble. In fact, being haughty (i.e. having a ‘proud look’) IS a sin in itself (Mark 7:22). As John wrote, in 1 John 2:16, *the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world*. Further, James 4:6 (and 1 Pt 5:5) also declares that *God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble* and they were quoting from Prov 3:34 when stating this. Therefore, 1 Peter 5:6 tells us to *humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time*, which is why Jesus Himself said that: *Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth* (Matt 5:5). The word ‘**meek**’ here does mean *humble* (#4239) and Jesus was actually quoting from Ps 37:11. So, both the Old and New Testaments teach us that pride is a very bad thing; so, it’s something that we, who love, and serve, Jesus Christ, *should work to kick out of our inner man have*. Therefore, we *must* admit that we do sin at times, and *remain humble*. After all, pride is what caused Satan to fall [as this study

explains: <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/308>], so you could even say that pride is truly (along with lust) one of the biggest threats to causing people to fall away from (apostatize) the *truth* (God's Word, John 17:17) *and* the *true* God [<https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/499>].

However, there **is** a difference between those who believe in Jesus Christ – and, therefore, try hard *not* to sin (and sincerely repent when they do) - versus those who don't care about sinning, i.e. habitual sinners. So, we also can't let those who are unbelievers (i.e. who don't believe in Jesus Christ) to tell us that we are 'no better than them' just because we do sin at times. The difference lies within the fact that we *try sincerely* to **obey** Jesus Christ, while they do not. And, because Jesus Christ died for our sins, we have forgiveness... but they do not because they deny Jesus Christ, i.e. the only atonement for our sins. And they do this because *they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved but take pleasure in unrighteousness* (2 Thess 2:10, 12).

So, in this 5th verse (here in Ps 101) David is promising the Lord (YHVH) that he'll 'cut off' (silence) those who secretly slander (gossip) others but he also promised not to 'suffer' those who have a high look and a proud heart (the haughty ones, who think they are better than everyone else). The word '**suffer**' here means ***to be able***, literally (***can, could***) or morally (***may, might***) (#3201). So, you could say David is simply promises not to 'put up with' these kinds of people, i.e. those who secretly gossip about others and those are proud and haughty. And this is quite befitting for those who serve the Lord (YHVH), especially for those who are in positions of authority, as David was. As Paul taught his protégé, Timothy: *them that sin rebuke before all, that others also may fear* (1 Tim 5:20). But, for those who are not in positions of authority, we should try to go to them and work things out, as Jesus taught us in Matt 18:15-17 and Luke 17:3-4; and Paul as well in Gal 6:1. But, whether we are a ruler or a layman, we should *not* gossip about others. And truly, gossip is *always* 'secretly slandering' others. Even today we don't consider saying 'good things' about others as gossip... it may be propaganda but not gossip! So, the point is that: secretly slandering others, and being proud and haughty, are things God *hates*, so we certainly work hard *not* to be that way.

Psalms 101

6 Mine eyes shall be upon the faithful of the land, that they may dwell with me: he that walketh in a perfect way, he shall serve me.

Herein are more promises David makes to the Lord (YHVH). And, essentially, he's speaking of the kind of people that he will chose to be in his government. But, to us today, this is still wise advice, for the kind of people we choose to be around. And, if possible, even the workplace we choose to work at (although a job that has many godly people is really hard to find nowadays). So, David first says that: *Mine eyes shall be upon the faithful of the land, that they may dwell with me*. The words '**mine eyes**' means ***an eye*** (literally or figuratively, #5869) and this word has

also been rendered as *face, countenances*, or even *favor*. So, ‘**attention**’ would also be a good translation. *Moffett* renders this verse as saying “*I look out for the faithful in the land*”. And then, and the word ‘**faithful**’ here is a prim root that means *to build up or support, to foster as a parent or nurse*, (figuratively) *to render* (or *be*) *firm* or *faithful, to trust* or *believe, to be permanent* or *quiet* and (morally) *to be true* or *certain* (#539). And the word ‘**land**’ means *the earth at large*, or *a partitively a land* (#776); and the ‘**land**’ David was likely referring to, is the kingdom of Israel, of which he was ruling over. And then the word ‘**dwell**’ (as in ‘*dwell with me*’) is a prim root that means *to sit down* (as judge or in quiet) and (by implication) *to dwell* or to *remain* and can even mean (causatively) *to settle* or *to marry* (#3427).

So, David’s simply saying that, those who are faithful in the land (nation) will ‘*dwell*’ with him. Again, he’s referring to those who will be in his government, including his counselors and servants. So, clearly, David doesn’t want anyone who doesn’t love, fear and obey the Lord (YHWH) to have any part in his government *because* they’ll only cause trouble... just like the talebearer! And then David also says (here in Ps 101:6) that: *he that walketh in a perfect way, he shall serve me*. The word ‘**walketh**’ is a prim root that means (not surprisingly) *to walk* (in a great variety of applications, literally and figuratively) (#1980). And the word ‘**perfect**’ means *entire* (literally, figuratively or morally) as well as *integrity* and *truth* (#8549). This same word has also been rendered as *undefiled, sincerely* and *upright* (amongst other things). And then, the word ‘**way**’ is also important, for it means *a road* (as trodden) and (figuratively) also means *a course of life* or *mode of action* (#1870), which is certainly the way David is using it. And lastly, the word ‘**serve**’ means *to attend as a menial or worshipper* and (figuratively), *to contribute to*; it’s also been rendered as: *minister* (unto), (do) *serve* (-ant, -ice, -itor) and *wait on* (#8334). So again, David’s explaining what those who will be in his government *will be like*, which also included his counselors and servants. He wanted people of integrity, i.e. those who knew God’s Word and were sincerely trying to obey it. A lot of people in positions of power only seek those who will ‘*kiss their butts*’ and flatter them, but David knew that’s really not wise, for he who flatters someone is most likely doing so to *devise his fall* (Prov 29:5).

Therefore, while David has previously (in this Ps 101) been promising God how he’ll rule Israel (in righteousness and truth), he’s now promising to work hard to keep his government full of God-fearing people. And the ‘**God**’ they *must* fear is the Living God, who is the Supreme God, which is to say *Yehovah* (#3068) (which today we call true Christians). Since David was committed to obeying – and enforcing – God’s Laws, he truly *needed* a government (including counselors and servants) who were ‘*on the same page*’ with him, i.e. who had the same ‘*mindset*’ as he did. Otherwise, there would be constant trouble, as did happen in his later years, after David committed some rather terrible crimes (2 Sam 11). So, this is a very good thing for David to promise God and really that’s exactly what Jesus Christ is working on too, i.e. Jesus Christ is (*right now*) forming His *eternal* government, which will be *incorruptible*. So, Jesus is looking for people who have a deep love for God (and His Laws, i.e. the truth) but are also merciful

(forgiving, Ps 101:1), upright in heart, have integrity and (most importantly) *can be trusted* to do the right thing and *faithfully obey* Him. That's *why* what you do now (while in the flesh body) is so critical. For, as Jesus warned, in Mth 7:21-23, there will be many self-professed Christians who Jesus Christ *will reject* – i.e. He won't let them be a part of His eternal Kingdom (the Kingdom of God) because they are (to quote Jesus) 'workers of iniquity'. Therefore, if we want to be a part of Jesus' eternal government (the Body of Christ) we must put off our 'old man' *which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts* (Eph 2:22), and *not serve sin any longer* (Rom 6:6). And, we do this by *renewing in the spirit of your mind* (Eph 4:23) ***through studying God's Word*** (Col 3:10) so the Holy Spirit will help us put on the 'new man', *which is created in righteousness and true holiness* (Eph 4:24). For, unless there is an internal change in your soul (putting on the 'new man') you cannot be a part of Jesus' eternal government! Only those who are 'on the same page' (i.e. have the same mindset as Jesus Christ does) will be allowed to reign with Him (Rom 8:13-18; Col 1:12-12; Heb 9:15; 1 Pt 1:3-5; Rev 20:4-6, etc.). As Paul well warned, ***no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God*** (Eph 5:5). And thankfully, as Paul also pointed out in Gal 3:26-29, even those who are not of Israel *can also* be a part of the Kingdom of God, for, *if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise* (Gal 3:29).

So, while this Psalm was written by David, where he promised God what he would rule like (which is thus prophetic of the way Jesus Christ will rule) it's also a wonderful 'blueprint' for those of us who want to be accepted into Jesus' *eternal* government, when He returns to rule the earth *forever*. And, as we learned many Psalms ago, Psalm 15 is very much like this Psalm too, for it gave us a shorter summary of those who will be allowed to live, and rule, with Jesus Christ when He returns [https://t.me/BibleStudyBooks_Psalms/118]. And Jesus also summarized this in the great 5th chapter of Matthew [<https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/397>]. So, let's keep these things in mind as we go about our daily lives, for those who will make the 'first resurrection' (Rev 20:4-6), i.e. be a part of Jesus' eternal government, are those who *in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it, and bring forth fruit with patience* (Luke 8:15) ...

23 And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men;

24 Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ.

25 But he that doeth wrong shall receive for the wrong which he hath done: and there is no respect of persons.

Col 3:23-25

We'll pick this up in part 4...

AMEN.