

Integrity

TEXT: Psa. 26

INTRODUCTION:

- A. A WORD RARELY USED – MISUNDERSTOOD.
- B. INTEGRITY IS NOT IMPORTANT TO MANY.

tom ; completeness; figuratively, prosperity; **usually (morally) innocence:** (**Strong's Greek-Hebrew Dictionary.**)

Tamam sometimes expresses **moral and ethical "soundness"** (**Vine's Dictionary**) integrity, completeness (**Brown Driver & Briggs Hebrew Lexicon.**)

Integrity: “The quality or state of being of sound moral principle; **uprightness, honesty, and sincerity**” (**Webster**) –implies an **incorruptible soundness of moral character**, esp. as displayed in **fulfilling trusts** [elect men of integrity].

- C. MORAL INNOCENCE, MORAL AND ETHICAL SOUNDNESS COMPLETENESS.
 - 1. Uprightness – righteousness.
 - 2. Honesty, - sincerity **implies consistency of life with beliefs and profession.**
 - 3. Hypocrisy is in opposition – so is moral weakness.
- D. OUR PSALM HAS A LOT TO SAY ABOUT INTEGRITY.

INTEGRITY INVOLVES:

I. TRUST WITHOUT WAVERING (vs. 1).

- A. OUR RELIGION IS “**FAITH-BASED.**”
 - 1. **Hebrews 11:6** è Belief that he is and he is a rewarder (**2 Tim. 2:11-13**).
 - 2. Our motivation (**2 Cor. 5:7** è vs. 1).
- B. WHAT IS BELIEVED IS AS IMPORTANT AS BELIEVING IT.
 - 1. Salvation is in **belief of the truth** (**2 Thess. 2:13**).
 - 2. Our **doctrine** is called “**the faith**” (**Jude 3**).
- C. INTEGRITY DEMANDS THAT WE DO NOT WAVER IN OUR FAITH:
 - 1. By **disbelief.**
 - a. There is plenty of evidence (**Rom. 10:17; John 20:30-31**).
 - b. But there is plenty of distraction (**Matt. 13:22**).
 - 2. By **acting inconsistently** with what we believe (**Phil. 1:27; Prov. 23:23**).

II. OPENNESS TO JUDGMENT (vs. 2).

- A. GOD WILL JUDGE US IN THE END (**2 Cor. 5:10**).
 - 1. Judgment will determine destiny (**Matt. 25:46**).
 - 2. Jesus will be the standard (**Acts 17:30-31**).
- B. **GOD KNOWS OUR HEARTS NOW.**
 - 1. We want God to see the innocence of our hearts (**Psa. 139:23-24**).
 - 2. We need to examine ourselves (**2 Cor. 13:5**).

III. OBEDIENCE TO THE TRUTH (vs. 3).

- A. HE KNOWS THE GIFT OF MERCY GOD GIVES.
 - 1. Every good gift – constant true (**James 1:17**).
 - 2. Salvation (**Rom. 5:8; 1 John 4:9-10**).
- B. THAT KNOWLEDGE COMPELS HIM TO **WALK IN GOD’S TRUTH.**
 - 1. Truth is the summation of God’s word (**Psa. 119:142, 151, 160**).
 - 2. Walking involves the way we live – **obedience** (**Rom. 2:4; 2 Cor. 5:14-15**).

IV. NO FELLOWSHIP WITH EVILDOERS (vs. 4-5).

- A. DAVID IS ESPECIALLY CONSCIOUS OF THE **DANGER** AND **SHAME** INVOLVED IN **FELLOWSHIPING EVIL AND ERROR** (**Psa. 1:1-2**)
- B. BEWARE THE LEAVEN OF THE PHARISEES! (**Matt. 16:11-12; Gal. 5:7-9**).
- C. WE MUST DISAPPROVE OF AND DISAVOW SIN AND FALSEHOOD (**Psa. 119:104; Eph. 5:11; Rom. 16:17-18**).

V. VALUE OF THINGS HOLY (vs. 6-8).

- A. I **LOVE** THE HABITATION OF THY HOUSE (vs. 8; **Matt. 6:19-21, 33; 13:44-46**).
- B. I WILL **WASH MY HANDS** (vs. 6).
 - 1. I am going to clean up my life (**2 Cor. 7:1; 1 John 1:6-7**).
 - 2. I will prepare myself for service (**2 Tim. 2:19-21; Heb. 12:28-29**).
- C. **ONLY SO** CAN WE BE A LIGHT TO OTHERS (vs. 7; **Matt. 5:14-16; 1 Pet. 2:11-12**).

VI. A DESIRE FOR JUSTIFICATION (vs. 9-10).

- A. IT IS A FEARFUL THING (**Heb. 10:21; Matt. 10:28**).
- B. DAVID HUNGERED FOR JUSTIFICATION (**Matt. 5:6; Psa. 51:7-12**).
- C. THERE IS BLESSEDNESS IN FORGIVENESS (**Psa. 32:1-2; Rom. 6:21**).

VII. DETERMINATION TO DO RIGHT (vs. 11).

- A. BEING RIGHT WITH GOD REQUIRES COMMITMENT
 - 1. Jesus as an example (**1 Pet. 2:21-23; 4:19**)
 - 2. He won't guard that which is not committed (**2 Tim. 1:12**).
- B. RIGHT IS FOUND IN GOD'S WORD (**John 8:12; Psa. 19:9; 119:105, 137-138, 142, 144**).
- C. **2 Tim. 3:16-17**.

CONCLUSION:

- A. AN EVEN PLACE – LEVEL GROUND WHERE ONE MIGHT STAND CONFIDENTLY.
- B. HE WILL PROCLAIM HIS GRATITUDE IN PRAISE OF THE FATHER.