

DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

Our Mission: Reaching Out to Leaders Who Can Change the World.

MESSIANIC PSALMS

Psalm 41

INTRODUCTION

Why is integrity such a challenge for powerful people?

OBSERVATION/INTERPRETATION.

Read Psalm 41:1-3

1. What are some of the motives for people to help the weak?
2. What does God promise for those that help with weak with a proper heart?

Read Psalm 41:4-9

3. What is the significance of David claiming that he has sinned against God rather than against man? Vs 4 1 Jn 1:9; Ps 51:4-5
4. What are David's enemies saying about him? Vv 5-9
Note: A king's close friend share his table (eat bread together). John 13:18
5. Why does it hurt David even more that a close friend has betrayed him? Vs 9; 2 Sam 15:12
6. Why does verse 9 point to Jesus as the Messiah? Matt 26:23-25; John 13:18

Read Psalm 41:10-13

7. What is the significance of David asking to be "raised up"? Vs 10; Ps 3:3-4; Ps 9:13
8. What is the significance of God being pleased with David, a sinner? Vs 11; Nu 14:8; Ps 147:11
9. Integrity is sometimes referred to as complete or whole (an integer). How can David, a sinner, claim integrity? Vs 12; Ge 20:5-6; Ps 25:21
10. What benefit does David think his integrity will provide? Vs 12; Job 36:7 How does this relate to Jesus?

APPLICATION

How can you be a man that is pleasing to God? Vs 11

A social eruption occurred on the campus of an American university. The nature of the case was so serious that it was necessary for the president of the institution and his council to handle it. In reply to a personal question, one of the top students snapped, "Sir, I'd wager that there are not ten men on the campus who wouldn't have done exactly what I did under the circumstances." Whereupon the president replied, "Young man, has it occurred to you that you might have been one of those ten?"

In his London Journal, Boswell reported that the literary giant Samuel Johnson, eighteenth-century English lexicographer and author, did not permit a servant to say he was not home when he was busy in his library for fear he might hurt the servant's idea of truth. Johnson said he might be able to explain it to a philosopher but not to a servant.

During the 1983 National Spelling Bee held in Washington, D. C., thirteen-year-old Andrew Flosdorf of Fonda, New York, eliminated himself from the contest when he informed the judges he had misspelled "echolalia." The judges had failed to catch the error. When questioned as to why he turned himself in, he straightforwardly replied, "I didn't want to feel like a slime."¹

¹ Jones, G. C. (1986). *1000 illustrations for preaching and teaching* (pp. 190-192). Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman Publishers.