

BECOMING A LEADER WITH INTEGRITY

PSALM 101

Introduction:

A nation is no stronger than the moral strength of its leaders. The best king that ever set on the throne of Israel was fully aware of this. He wrote this psalm as an expression of the conviction that the person who led the nation must be a person of absolute integrity.

We are called to lead the church like David led the nation. What David models in this Psalm should guide us in our behavior, and in our approach to leadership.

In our culture we have allowed a separation of what a man is and what a man does. We are attempting to prove that a man can be one thing in his private life and yet be effective in his public leadership. This inspired piece of Holy Scripture takes the opposite position.

The call of this psalm for a life of integrity can be applied to the leaders of the nation—even a secular nation like ours, or to the leaders of the church.

Even the church has fallen into the same cultural trap. We have slowly been lowering our expectations of those who lead us.

Let's take a careful look at these words of the Lord about a leader who has integrity.

I. THE LEADER'S INTEGRITY BEGINS AT HOME. (V. 2)

It is interesting that David begins with a reference to his behavior at home. I wonder when he wrote this psalm. The evidence seems to be that this is exactly where his failure began. His position of leadership began to unravel because of decisions he made at home. He was at home when he made the decision to commit adultery with Bathsheba. He was at home when he failed to give moral and spiritual guidance to his children.

1. He demonstrates love toward the members of his family.
2. He models at home what he proclaims in public.

II. THE LEADER'S INTEGRITY HAS SPIRITUAL ROOTS. (V. 3-4)

1. He acknowledges his dependence on God

“O when will you come to me?”

2. He maintains purity of heart toward God.

III. THE LEADER'S INTEGRITY GUIDES HIS CHOICES. (V. 5-8)

1. It guides his choice of what he will reject.

He rejects

Slander;

Arrogance;

Dishonesty;

Hurtful treatment of others.

2. It guides his choice of what he will approve.

He approves

Faithfulness;

Mature people.