

PRAYING PSALM 101

“I will sing...to You, O Lord, I will sing praises” (Psalm 101:1).

This was probably written by David at the beginning of his reign when he decided to bring the ark back to Jerusalem. The psalm lists David’s aspirations. These aspirations are both private and public. 1. PRIVATE ASPIRATIONS (1-5). I will sing of mercy and justice. I will behave wisely in a perfect way. I will walk within my house with a perfect heart. I will not know wickedness. I will cut off whoever secretly slanders his neighbor. I will not endure the proud. 2. PUBLIC ASPIRATIONS (6-8). My eyes shall be on the faithful. He who works deceit shall not continue in my presence. I will destroy all the wicked.

We can largely determine our success by our aspirations. David’s aspirations were spiritual. David believed if his prayers were to be effective, his life should be blameless. David looked at his life from the standpoint of his associations. He expected faithfulness in his friends and colleagues. To tolerate wicked people is a compromise of faith, that includes removing himself from slanders. Only then could David sing of mercy and justice. You will become what you aspire to be. Your prayers will be as effective as your loyalty to godly living. It is hypocritical to extol virtue and tolerate vice. David sang about mercy and justice. He could do that because he was merciful and just. This psalm is a lesson on praying to become godly, with the expectation that God will honor you for honoring him. Before you pray examine your heart, and your friends, and your aspirations.