

Psalm 026 - A Man of Integrity Pleads for Justice

Psalm 26

[A Psalm of David]

A Man of Integrity Pleads for Justice

1 Vindicate me, LORD, for I have walked in my integrity, And I have trusted in the LORD without wavering.

1 Vindicate me, O LORD, for I have walked in my integrity, And I have trusted in the LORD without wavering.

1 Vindicate me, LORD, because I have walked in integrity; I have trusted in the LORD without wavering.

1 Judge me, O LORD; for I have walked in mine integrity: I have trusted also in the LORD; therefore I shall not slide.

- "Vindicate" - means "give me justice, defend my reputation"

— When your character and conduct are attacked, it isn't wrong to vindicate yourself, as Paul did (2 Cor 10-12) or ask the Lord to vindicate you

2 Examine me, LORD, and put me to the test; Refine my mind and my heart.

2 Examine me, O LORD, and try me; Test my mind and my heart.

2 Examine me, LORD, and inspect me! Test my heart and mind.

2 Examine me, O LORD, and prove me; try my reins and my heart.

3 For Your goodness is before my eyes, And I have walked in Your truth.

3 For Your lovingkindness is before my eyes, And I have walked in Your truth.

3 For your gracious love precedes me, and I continuously walk according to your truth.

3 For thy lovingkindness is before mine eyes: and I have walked in thy truth.

4 I do not sit with deceitful people, Nor will I go with pretenders.

4 I do not sit with deceitful men, Nor will I go with pretenders.

4 I do not sit with those committed to what is false, nor do I travel with hypocrites.

4 I have not sat with vain persons, neither will I go in with dissemblers.

5 I hate the assembly of evildoers, And I will not sit with the wicked.

5 I hate the assembly of evildoers, And I will not sit with the wicked.

5 I hate the company of those who practice evil, nor do I sit with the wicked.
5 I have hated the congregation of evil doers; and will not sit with the wicked.

6 I will wash my hands in innocence, And I will go around Your altar, LORD,
6 I shall wash my hands in innocence, And I will go about Your altar, O LORD,
6 I wash my hands innocently. I go around your altar, LORD,
6 I will wash mine hands in innocency: so will I compass thine altar, O LORD:

7 That I may proclaim with the voice of thanksgiving And declare all Your wonders.
7 That I may proclaim with the voice of thanksgiving And declare all Your wonders.
7 so I may praise you loudly with thanksgiving and declare all your wondrous acts.
7 That I may publish with the voice of thanksgiving, and tell of all thy wondrous works.

Balanced life

David hated sin, but loved the things of God: In walking (v1,3,11), standing (v12) and sitting (v4) he kept himself from evil. David became a measuring stick for the kings who followed him. Every king was judged by whether or not he walked in the steps of his father David. If he followed David's example, he was accepted and proclaimed a good king.

8 LORD, I love the dwelling of Your house, And the place where Your glory remains.
8 O LORD, I love the habitation of Your house And the place where Your glory dwells.
8 O LORD, I love the habitation of Your house And the place where Your glory dwells.
LORD, I love the dwelling place that is your house, the place where your glory resides.
8 LORD, I have loved the habitation of thy house, and the place where thine honour dwelleth.

9 Do not take my soul away *along* with sinners, Nor my life with men of bloodshed,
9 Do not take my soul away *along* with sinners, Nor my life with men of bloodshed,
9 Do not group me with sinners, nor include me with men who shed blood.
9 Gather not my soul with sinners, nor my life with bloody men:

10 In whose hands is a wicked scheme, And whose right hand is full of bribes.
10 In whose hands is a wicked scheme, And whose right hand is full of bribes.
10 Their hands are filled with wicked schemes, and their right hands with bribes.
10 In whose hands is mischief, and their right hand is full of bribes.

11 But as for me, I will walk in my integrity; Redeem me, and be gracious to me.
11 But as for me, I shall walk in my integrity; Redeem me, and be gracious to me.

11 But as for me, I walk in my integrity. Redeem me and be gracious to me!

11 But as for me, I will walk in mine integrity: redeem me, and be merciful unto me.

12 My foot stands on level ground; In the congregations I will bless the LORD.

12 My foot stands on a level place; In the congregations I shall bless the LORD.

12 My feet stand on level ground; among the worshiping congregations I will bless the LORD.

12 My foot standeth in an even place: in the congregations will I bless the LORD.