

Last Words
II Samuel 23:1-7

Review:

1. All who wield authority must have an attitude of humility toward God and other people
2. All who wield authority must seek guidance from the Word of God, the Holy Scriptures
3. All who wield authority must rule in righteousness, putting the principles of God's will into practice
4. Righteous governments bring light and life to their people, while wicked ones bring only despair

Reflect:

1. What kinds of leaders do you find attractive? Given what you've learned in today's passage, are all of them really worthy of your admiration?
2. In what areas of life are you called to lead? How can you put David's principles of good government into practice in those situations?

Go Further: Read Psalm 11

1. According to verse 1, in Whom does David find refuge?
2. From the end of verse 1 through the end of verse 3, David quotes the kinds of things people say in order to discourage him. How do they tell him to flee?
3. What does verse 2 say the wicked are planning to do? Who are their targets?
4. What does verse 3 say is being destroyed?
5. According to verse 4, where is the Lord? Why is this important?
6. What does verse 4 say the Lord sees and does?
7. Who does verse 5 say the Lord tests? Who does this verse say God hates?
8. What does verse 6 insist the Lord will do to the wicked?
9. How does verse 7 describe the Lord? What does David say that God loves?
10. What does verse 7 promise that the upright will see? Is this promise important to you?

Summary and Application:

1. What kinds of things do you see and hear that discourage you? In such times, how does it help you to remember that God is sovereign over everyone and everything?
2. Is it important to you that God is perfectly righteous and just? Why or why not?
3. How does this psalm provide a model of the way human rulers should exercise their authority?