

Main thought: This psalm is a prayer of the faithful. In it we ask God to look at our hearts and test us. This would invite disaster except for the wondrous deeds of the LORD and the forgiveness we receive in His house. A contrast is given between false teachers and hypocrites and the steadfast love of God which is taught in God's house. Indeed, though when we look inside ourselves we see much for which we need forgiveness, because of Jesus Christ and His sacrifice we are washed clean and can approach God boldly.

Psalm 26:1–8

Vindicate me, O LORD,
for I have walked in my integrity,
and I have trusted in the LORD without wavering.
Prove me, O LORD, and try me;
test my heart and my mind.
For your steadfast love is before my eyes,
and I walk in your faithfulness.
I do not sit with men of falsehood,
nor do I consort with hypocrites.
I hate the assembly of evildoers,
and I will not sit with the wicked.
I wash my hands in innocence
and go around your altar, O LORD,
proclaiming thanksgiving aloud,
and telling all your wondrous deeds.
O LORD, I love the habitation of your house
and the place where your glory dwells.

Prayer

Lord Jesus, abide with us in these latter evil days. Grant to Your Church true shepherds and faithful pastors who preach Your Word in its purity, and who lead us in the way of truth. Preserve our souls from being deluded by worldly wisdom and the teaching of men who walk after their own thoughts, and keep us steadfast in Your Word to the end. Amen.