

Psalm 15

Who Can Enter God's Presence?

1 <<A Psalm of David.>> LORD, who shall abide in thy tabernacle? who shall dwell in thy holy hill?

2 He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart.

3 He that backbiteth not with his tongue, nor doeth evil to his neighbour, nor taketh up a reproach against his neighbour.

4 In whose eyes a vile person is contemned; but he honoureth them that fear the LORD. He that sweareth to his own hurt, and changeth not.

5 He that putteth not out his money to usury, nor taketh reward against the innocent. He that doeth these things shall never be moved.

I. Superscription

- A. The writer is David.
- B. Psalm is *mizmor*.

II. Literary Structure

- A. Questions - who can enter God's presence and worship?
- B. Answers - those who are both internally and externally clean.

III. Outline of Thought

- A. Questions.
 - 1. Who may abide - short visit - Psalm 15:1a.
 - 2. Who may dwell - longer visit - Psalm 15:1b.
- B. Answers.
 - 1. Those who walk uprightly - a continuous pattern of Godly living.
 - 2. Those who work at righteousness - again, a pattern of life.
 - 3. Those who speak truth - continually speak the truth.
 - 4. Those that backbite not - speak evil of others.
 - 5. Those who do not take a reproach against their neighbor - that is, speak evil and defame their character.
 - 6. Those who exhibit moral judgment - in other words, those who hate sin and love righteousness.
 - 7. Those who have integrity - they make promises and keep them.
 - 8. Those who love others - they do not cheat their neighbors.

IV. Theological Implications

- A. Moral purity is a requirement for anyone who desires to truly worship God.
- B. Moral purity is something that is practised as a manner of life.
- C. The requirements for one to spend a short or long time in God's presence is the same.