

A Heart for God (Psalm 15)

- How are we to glorify God? We are to live righteously. How do we do that?
- The righteous standard God sets is found in His perfect moral law
- None of us can ever reach that standard; that is why we need Jesus (Rom 8:3,4)
- The best summary of the moral law is given to us by the Lord Jesus Christ
 - 1) Love the Lord your God with all your heart, mind and soul
 - 2) Love your neighbor as your self
- This is the standard to which God is leading His people, to be like Jesus

I. The Question of the Psalm

- David is asking this very question: "How may a man be righteous before God?"
- This is the character of a man God approves, how we ought to live for Him
- This is a question about godly living; here is not a question of justification
- The only way one can be righteous is by faith in Jesus Christ as Lord & Savior
- If a person is justified in Christ they will continually move in that direction

II. Hebrew Parallelism

- Sometimes the lines involve mere repetition as in the first part of v2

He who walks blamelessly...and does what is right
- Sometimes they express a contrast, as in the couplets that end in v2 & v3

[who] speaks truth in his heart;... who does not slander with his tongue
- Sometimes they have form, not only this but also that, the 2nd half of vs. 4

who swears to his own hurt...and does not change;

III, The Person God Approves

- His character: who walks blamelessly and does what is right
- His speech: the righteous man speaks the truth, he tells it like it is
- His conduct: "and does no evil to his neighbor"
- His values: "in whose eyes a vile person is despised, but who honors those who fear the LORD"
- His integrity: "who swears [keeps his oath all the time] [and is faithful] to his own hurt & does not change
- His use of money: who does not put out his money at interest and does not take a bribe against the innocent.