

Psalm 15

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.

Introduction:

1. The inspired heading tells us that David wrote this.
2. David could have been contemplating this during his forced departure from Jerusalem due to Absalom's rebellion.

Outline:

- A. The Question (v.1)
- B. The Answer (vv.2-5a)
- C. The Assurance (vv.5b)

Observations:

1. Synonymous parallelism – (v.1) “who” and “who” “abide” and “dwell” “tabernacle” and “holy hill.”
2. The place of worship was the Tabernacle in Jerusalem (Deut. 12:1, 5, 14).
3. David conquered Jerusalem from the Jebusites and set the Ark of the LORD in this designated place of worship (2 Sam. 5:6-7; 2 Sam. 6:17).
4. Apparently David was outside of Jerusalem and was uncomfortable with the ungodly.
5. The Godly:
 - a. Positives: walks uprightly; works righteousness; speaks the truth. He honors those who fear the LORD. Integrity.
 - b. Negatives: does not backbite; does no evil to his neighbor; not takes up a reproach against his neighbor; contemns or despises the vile. Does not charge interest on their loans. Does not accept bribes. (see Isa. 1:23).

Lesson: The righteous shall never be moved (or shaken; see Ps. 16:8).

Psalm 16

1 Michtam of David.

Preserve me, O God: for in thee do I put my trust. 2 O my soul, thou hast said unto the LORD, Thou art my Lord: my goodness extendeth not to thee; 3 But to the saints that are in the earth, and to the excellent, in whom is all my delight. 4 Their sorrows shall be multiplied that hasten after another god: their drink offerings of blood will I not offer, nor take up their names into my lips. 5 The LORD is the portion of mine inheritance and of my cup: thou maintainest my lot. 6 The lines are fallen unto me in pleasant places; yea, I have a goodly heritage. 7 I will bless the LORD, who hath given me counsel: my reins also instruct me in the night seasons.

8 I have set the LORD always before me: because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved. 9 Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoiceth: my flesh also shall rest in hope. 10 For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption. 11 Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore.

Introduction:

1. “Michtam” – meaning “to cover.” Used for private meditation. (6 Psalms are Michtam Psalms – 16, 56-60).
2. This is also a Messianic Psalm. (Acts 2:25-28; 13:35-37). (Ps. 16:8-11 is clearly not referring to the David).

Outline: (Alternate Parallelism)

- A. Theology and Faith (vv.1-4) (Creed)
- B. Experience and Faith (vv.5-6) (Conduct)
- A.' Theology and Faith (vv.7-8) (Creed)
- B.' Experience and Faith (v.9-11) (Conduct)

Observations:

1. David had great concern for the saints. V.3 presents an inverted parallelism.
2. David had great disdain for the heathen. (v.4)
3. David had a spiritual heritage from the LORD. (v.5-6).
4. (v.7-8) David recedes into the background and the LORD takes over the verse. This is how prophetic passages operate. (2 Cor. 12:2, 4 with Lk. 23:43; Eph. 4:8).

Lesson: Christ is the Holy One whom the Father shows the path of life. (Jn. 17:2-5).