

Quarter one: The Book of Psalms

Lesson 12—Worship that Never Ends

Tuesday: Lord, Who May Abide in Your Tabernacle?

March 19, 2024

- **Last Week:** “Longing for God in Zion”
 - Psalms of Zion – songs of faith & trust in God’s presence, with His people
- **This Week:** “Worship that Never Ends”
 - Individual & corporate worship & praise to God & as a witness to others

Memory Text: “I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have my being.” (Ps 104:33, NKJV)

The week in brief:

- 1. **Sunday:** Lift Up Your Hands in the Sanctuary (Daniel)
 - Ps 134 – God’s people, giving praise & thanks to God in worship
- 2. **Monday:** Sing to the Lord a New Song (Ryan)
 - Multiple Psalms – singing a new song – of redemption & new exp with our Savior
- 3. **Tuesday:** Lord, Who May Abide in Your Tabernacle? (Jill)
 - Ps 15; 24; 101 – importance of purity & holiness in worship / in His presence
- 4. **Wednesday:** Declare His Glory Among the Nations (John D)
 - Ps 96 – aspects of worship – including evangelism & connection with 3 angels message
- 5. **Thursday:** When God Does Not Delight in Sacrifices (James)
 - Ps 40; 50; 51 – correlation between motive & worship (inward heart needs to match outward expression of worship)

Tuesday: Lord, Who May Abide in Your Tabernacle?

Ps 15; 24:3 – 6; 101:1 – 3; Ps 51:2 – 10; Eze 15:5; Lev 22:21 – 24

- Psalm 15 = 10 characteristics of those fit to be guests in God’s house (sanctuary / temple / church); ultimately, those who live with Him in Heaven
 - Parallels 10 Commandments, esp last 6 commandments
 - According to the Jewish Talmud, all 613 commandments of the Torah are summarized
- Ps 15:1 & 24:3 = the question: who can live with God? (both here in worship & in the hereafter?)
 - Ps 15:1 – “Lord, who may **abide** in Your tabernacle? Who may **dwell** in Your holy hill?”
 - Abide = lit, sojourn
 - Dwell = shaw-kan’ – “to settle down, abide, dwell”
 - Ps 15 follows with 10 characteristics
 - Emphasizes worshipers entrance into God’s sanctuary (house)
 - Ps 24:3 – “Who may ascend into the hill of the Lord? Or who may stand in His holy place?”
 - Ps 24 follows with qualities in one verse

- Emphasizes entrance of the King of Glory
 - When David brought the ark to Jerusalem
 - When the risen Christ entered the heavenly Jerusalem as King
- Ps 24 answers the question in Ps 15
 - Blessing, salvation & righteousness only come from God
 - Ps 24:5 – “He shall receive blessing from the Lord; and righteousness from the God of his salvation.”
 - Qualities in Ps 15 & Ps 24:4 are not merely outward qualities, but come from a heart where God resides

10 characteristics of God’s worshipers: inward & outward characteristics

- **1. Walk in purity of heart / holiness**
 - Ps 15:2a – “He who walks **uprightly**,....”
 - Uprightly = taw-meem’ = without blemish, complete, perfect, without spot, undefiled
 - Same word in Gen 17:1 – “When Abram was 99 years old, the Lord appeared to Abram and said to him, ‘I am Almighty God; walk before Me and **be blameless.**”
 - Same word in Ex 12:5 – “Your lamb shall be **without blemish**, a male of the first year...”
 - Same word in Ez 15:5 – a perfect vine is “whole, undamaged, and healthy”
 - Ps 24:4a – “He who has clean hands and a pure heart...”
 - *Mollie’s prayer – Ps 139:23, 24 – search me, O God, and know my heart; **try me** and know my anxieties...”
 - Try me = investigate me
 - **Takeaway #1: Repent & receive a clean heart (purity of heart) from God**
 - Ps 51:10 – “**Create** in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.”
 - Create = *bara* = used of God’s activity to create something from nothing
- **2. Be covered with Christ’s Righteousness**
 - Ps 15:2a – “He who walks uprightly, and works **righteousness**,”
 - Isa 64:6 – our righteousness = filthy rags
 - **Takeaway #2: Ask God to cover you with His righteousness**
 - Phil 3:9 – “And be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, that righteousness which is from God by faith,”
 - Jews (& Christians today) sought to acquire righteousness through their own means / power:
 - Rom 10:1 – 3 – “Brethren, my heart’s desire & prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved. (2) For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge. (3) For they being ignorant of God’s righteousness, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted to the righteousness of God.”

- **3. Live from the inside out**
 - Outward actions match what is inside the heart
 - Ps 15:2b – “He who walks uprightly, and works righteousness, and speaks the truth in his heart;”
 - Don’t live a duplicitous life
 - Don’t be a whitewashed sepulcher
 - **Takeaway #3: Be honest with yourself & God**
 - Allow Him to change you inside, and what is outside will always match what is inside
- **4. Don’t gossip about others**
 - Ps 15:3a – “He who does not backbite with his tongue,...”
 - Kind to someone’s face / stab them in the back
 - **Takeaway #4: Speak kindly of others – to their face & behind their backs**
- **5. Treat others kindly – even enemies**
 - Ps 15:3b – “...nor does evil to his neighbor...”
 - **Takeaway #5: Act with kindness & goodness to all**
- **6. Treat friends kindly**
 - Ps 15:3c – “...nor does he take up a reproach against his friend.”
 - NLT: “Those who refuse to gossip or harm their neighbors or speak evil of their friends.”
 - Sometimes, it’s hardest to be nicest to those closest to us
 - **Takeaway #6: Treat those closest to you with kindness & respect**
- **7. Show respect where it is due**
 - Ps 15:4a – “In whose eyes a vile person is despised, but he honors those who fear the Lord;...”
 - We often respect power, position, money, advantage, class – even when it’s ungodly
 - Respect those who follow God, no matter their position or if it rewards you
 - Rom 2:11 – God is no respecter of persons
 - **Takeaway #9: Respect the things & people that are God-honoring**
- **8. Do what’s right, even when it hurts**
 - Ps 15:4b – “...He who swears to his own hurt and does not change;”
 - NIV: “who keeps an oath even when it hurts, and does not change their mind”
 - NLT: “keeps their promises, even when it hurts”
 - **Takeaway #8: Keep your promise, keep your word, even when it’s difficult**
- **9. Don’t take advantage of others**
 - Ps 15:5a – “He who does not put out his money at usury,...”
 - NIV: “who lends money to the poor without interest...”

- NLT: “those who lend money without charging interest...”
 - Berean Standard Bible: “who does not put out his money at interest”
- **Takeaway #9: Be considerate of others, especially the poor**
- **10. Don’t hurt the vulnerable**
 - Ps 15:5b – “nor does he take a bribe against the innocent.”
 - NLT: who cannot be bribed to lie about the innocent
 - James 1:27 – “Pure & undefiled religion before God & the Father is this: to visit orphans & widows in their trouble, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world.”
 - **Takeaway #10: Protect the vulnerable in society**
 - Widows, orphans, fatherless
- Ps 15:5c – “...He who does these things shall never be **moved**.”
 - Moved = lit, stagger, totter

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 - Ask God to cover you with His righteousness
- 3. Live from the inside out
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- 4. Don’t gossip about others
 - Speak kindly of others – to their face & behind their backs
- 5. Treat others kindly – even enemies
 - Act with kindness & goodness to all
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 - Treat those closest to you with kindness & respect
- 7. Show respect where it is due
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- 8. Do what’s right, even when it hurts
 - Keep your word, keep your promise, even when it’s difficult
- 9. Don’t take advantage of others
 - Be considerate of others, especially the poor
- 10. Don’t hurt the vulnerable
 - Protect the vulnerable in society