

February 2, PSALM 15, Devine Access

VERSE 1

This is a wonderful passage, wherein David is answering his own question. His question is, “Who shall dwell with the Lord?” This is a really good question.

Our world spends so much money, effort, and time on trying to get access to powerful people, politicians, movie stars, or musicians. Lobbyists spend millions of dollars every year - and do all kinds of illegal and unethical things - to get access to someone with power.

Obviously, this is not the kind of access David is talking about. He is talking about access to the Lord, who possesses complete and total access to everything and everyone. But David sees past the human-access-focus to the higher joy of being in God’s presence.

Thank you, God, that You love us enough to open up this access to You! Thank you that we can actually be in Your presence - we don’t have to go through someone else (priest, sacrifices, money, unethical or illegal activities.) We have access because we are Your

children. We are so thankful that You open Yourself up to us! We are thankful that we can live in Your presence. Thank you, Father, for Jesus - that You gave Him up for us so that we could have that access. In Jesus name -

VERSE 2-5a

These verses talk about who actually has access to the presence of God. If you notice, these verses are a mirror image of the Lord! What he's saying here is that the people who get to come into God's presence are the people who are a mirror image of God.

These verses describe the character of God. This is what it means to be godly. It's not like you set out to do these things - when you come to know the Lord and dwell in His presence, these things come out of you!

The overflow of Christ's presence will spill out into people who live blameless, do what is right, speak truth, do not slander, resist evil, do not take their own revenge, who honor others who love and fear the Lord, who keep their promises even when it hurts, who do not arrange their finances to exploit others, and who do not take bribes.

Thank you, Lord, that You allow us access to You. Help each one of us to become what these verses describe. These are the things that come out of us when we access You, when we spend time in Your presence, when we seek You and Your Word, when we pray and pour out our hearts and You become the center of our lives. You build these things in us and change our character from the inside-out. May You work this miracle in our lives!
In Jesus name -

VERSE 5b

When we access the presence of the Lord, we will reflect Him and His character, and we will not be shaken! The irony is present in both book-end thoughts from Psalm 15 verses 1 and 5...that we must obtain righteousness to enter God's presence (as purchased by Christ's righteousness alone), and that righteousness is the result of entering His presence. The spill out of the presence of Christ in our lives will be the righteousness that results in an unshakeable life in every practical step forward, and in our every need for strengthening.

Lord, we come to You and thank You that You inspired David to write this Psalm. He begins by asking about being in Your presence, progresses to reflecting on the

*character of those in Your presence, and concludes with the promise needed for the current moment. He's dealing with something, needing strength...and we're all dealing with something! And often we are not prepared for decisions that must suddenly be made in the midst of a difficult day. But help us as we are daily in Your presence, and Your character is funneled through us, to not be shaken. Help us to make the right decisions - the decisions that honor You. May we be able to lay our head on the pillow this night unshaken - with a clear conscience and in peace that we have walked with You.
In Jesus' name -*