

Thoughts for the week 4 – Psalm 15:-

This Psalm, like Psalm 8, also contains a vital question! “*O Lord, who shall dwell in thy tabernacle?*”. Remember, “*Blest are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.*” (Matthew chapter 5, verse 8). The answer given in verses 2 – 5 is taken from Deuteronomy chapter 16, verse 19 and Leviticus chapter 25, verse 36. It has been suggested that this Psalm could have been used at the entrance to the Temple as question by the priest verse 1, answer by the worshipper verses 2 – 5a with an affirmation by the priest on the admittance of the worshipper, verse 5b.

Verse 1:- The vital question! Who is able to approach the High and Holy Lord God of Hosts?

Verses 2 – 5a:- The answer is only those who are holy and righteous themselves. Those who keep the whole Law “*from the heart*” verse 2. In practice this excludes the whole of humankind. There is none righteous, no not one! For example see Psalm 143 verse 2 and Romans chapter 3, verse 20. In the words of the Lord Jesus Christ himself “*Blest are the pure in heart, for they shall see God*”. Matthew chapter 5, verse 8. He also pointed to the root of the problem. The thoughts which are in our innermost hearts and minds – see Matthew 15, verse 19.

Verse 5b:- An affirmation for those who are able to keep the whole of the Law. - Remember it must be “*from his heart*”.

In Psalm 143, verse 2, the author faces reality “*no man living is righteous before Thee*”. How then can sinful man approach the Holy Lord God? There are a number of New Testament texts that can help. See Hebrews chapter 4, verses 14 – 16 and Romans chapter 7, verses 21 – 25.

“Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!”

Terry Brighton 28 / 8 / 2025