

INTRODUCTION.

- A. Scripture text: **Psalms 15:1-5.**
- B. From Roy H. Enoch (12-8-93).
- C. Eleven characteristics are given of a man that God will accept. Six are positive and five are negative.
- D. If you would like a little check-list of righteous living--this is it.

I. THE TEXT.

- 1 LORD**, who may abide in Your tabernacle? Who may dwell in Your holy hill?
- 2 He** who walks uprightly, and works righteousness, and speaks the truth in his heart;
- 3 He** who does not backbite with his tongue, nor does evil to his neighbor, nor does he take up a reproach against his friend;
- 4 In** whose eyes a vile person is despised, but he honors those who fear the LORD; he who swears to his own hurt and does not change;
- 5 He** who does not put out his money at usury, nor does he take a bribe against the innocent. He who does these things shall never be moved.

II. COMMENTS.

- A. **[v1]** David is not asking for the name of the person whom God accepts, but the kind of person God will bless.
 - 1. It is a question of: **"Who is religious?"** or **"Who will enter heaven?"** or **"Who will be saved?"**
 - 2. "Tabernacle" means tent and is often used to refer to a place on earth where God promises to meet man.
- B. **[v2]** Positive things:
 - 1. He who walks uprightly (see Psa. 1:5; Gal. 2:14).
 - 2. He works righteousness (Vine: whatever conforms to the revealed will of God).
 - 3. He speak the truth in his heart (Mt. 12:34).
- C. **[v3]** Negative things:
 - 1. He does not backbite w/his tongue (he does not slander), see Eph. 4:29, 31.
 - 2. He does not do evil to his neighbor (Rom. 13:8-10).
 - 3. He does not take up a reproach (to disgrace or dishonor) against his friend.
- D. **[v4]** Positive things:
 - 1. He despises the vile person (the reprobate).
"In whose eyes a vile person is despised." Those in the world love worldly people and those who are godly love godly people. That is why some people go to taverns to look for friends and some go to church. God knows that the heart seeks those most like itself.
 - 2. He honors those who fear the Lord.
 - 3. He swears to his own hurt and does not change (accepts his/her own blame).
- E. **[v5]** Negative things:
 - 1. He does not put his money out for interest (no usury).
 - 2. He will not take a bribe against the innocent.
 - 3. "He who does these things shall never be moved." One who lives in this way will stay with God and His way. He is secure and faithful.
- F. These are not all inclusive of every virtue that God expects of us, but they are impressive, especially in the context of Middle East society where bribery, oppression of the poor, backbiting, and slander are widespread.

CONCLUSION AND INVITATION.

- A. Eleven things to take note of in our walk with God.

- B. Positive: to be upright, righteous, and truthful, love the godly, honor the Lord, accept blame.
- C. Negative: backbite, do evil, take reproach, practice usury, accepts bribes.
- D. May we take this advice and put it in our lives as we serve X.
- E. Plan of salvation for non-Xians, erring Xians.