

# “Fit for Fellowship”

## Psalm 15

Psalm 14 speaks of the fool who denies God (v1). Psalm 15 speaks of the faithful believer who has fellowship with God. Both Psalms are composed by David. In this 15th Psalm, he poses a major question related to our fellowship with God. He asks the question in two ways: (1) “Who may abide in Your tent?” (a reference to the temple of God) and (2) “Who may dwell on Your holy hill?” (a reference to the city of Jerusalem). Essentially, he is asking God, “Who will be accepted by You, Oh God, when he comes to Your house and into Your presence?”

David, then, with God’s wisdom and by divine inspiration; answers his own question. He does so with a three-fold emphasis; implying certain characteristics which are true of a behavior fit for fellowship.

**I. We are fit for fellowship when our WALK IS RIGHT** (v.2a “He who walks with integrity...” i.e. those who live day-by-day in the highest character).

A. Our WALK BEFORE THE WORLD must be right (v. 3b “He does no evil to his neighbor, ...”) - cf. Ex. 20:17.

B. Our WALK BEFORE THE CHURCH must be right (v 5 “He does not put out his money at interest” i.e. to a brother in need. “He does not take a bribe against the innocent” i.e. he can’t be bought by others to bring harm to a needy believer). cf. Ex. 22:25.

**II. We are fit for fellowship when our WORK IS RIGHT** (v. 2b “He who... works righteousness,... “)

A. We are to have a HOLY HATRED OF SIN (v. 4a “In whose eyes a reprobate is despised, ...”) - cf. Psalm 5:5; 11:5; 45:71

B. We are to have a HOLY HONOR FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS (v. 4b “He honors those who fear the Lord...”) - cf. Psalm 1:5-6; 34:15.

**III. We are fit for fellowship when our WORDS ARE RIGHT** (v.2c “He speaks truth in his heart.”)

A. We can speak NEGATIVE WORDS (v.3 “He does not slander with his tongue...” he does not take up a reproach against his friend.”) - cf. Ex. 20:16.

B. We can speak POSITIVE WORDS (v. 2c “He speaks truth...”) - cf. Acts 9:26-27; I Cor. 13:2.

So, who will the Lord accept? Who is really prepared to worship when they come to church? Those whose WALK IS RIGHT... those whose WORK IS RIGHT and those whose WORDS ARE RIGHT. — rrc