**WHO SHALL ABIDE?**

**Psalms 15:1-5**

[**1**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Psalms-15-1/)**(A Psalm of David.) LORD, who shall abide in thy tabernacle? who shall dwell in thy holy hill?** [**2**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Psalms-15-2/)**He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart.** [**3**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Psalms-15-3/)***He that* backbiteth not with his tongue, nor doeth evil to his neighbour, nor taketh up a reproach against his neighbour.** [**4**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Psalms-15-4/)**In whose eyes a vile person is contemned; but he honoureth them that fear the LORD. *He that* sweareth to *his own* hurt, and changeth not.**

[**5**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Psalms-15-5/)***He that* putteth not out his money to usury, nor taketh reward against the innocent. He that doeth these *things* shall never be moved.**

**INTRO:**

**\*\*Before answering this question, we need to understand why we should want to abide in God’s house. What is the real reason we keep going to church? What should be in our hearts that drives us to want to go to God’s house?**

**1. We should go to church because of the Savior!**

**\*\*I’m here for one reason, and that’s because I want to be in His presence!**

 **A. I believe His presence is Conceivable.**

**James 4:8 Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you.**

 **\*\*His Fellowship is Attainable**

 **\*\*His Friendship is Attainable**

 **B. I believe His presence is Conditional**

**II Chronicles 15:2b The LORD *is* with you, while ye be with him; and if ye seek him, he will be found of you; but if ye forsake him, he will forsake you.**

**\*\*Don’t expect God to go with you if you forsake Him for Sinful Reasons or Selfish Reasons.**

 **C. I believe His presence is Consistent**

**\*\*I abide in God’s house because I have found His presence to be Consistently Real and Consistently Reliable!**

**2. We should go to church because of Security!**

 **A. God’s presence in our lives prevents Defilement**

 **\*\*When you leave God’s House you’ll find Turmoil**

 **\*\*When you leave God’s Holiness you’ll find Trouble**

 **B. God’s presence in our lives prevents Devastation**

**\*\*We need to abide in God’s house and seek God’s presence to protect our Christian Homes and our Church House!**

 **C. God’s presence in our lives prevents Departing**

**\*\*I abide in God’s house because I got a dose of the Holy Ghost and I keep coming back because I desire His Power, His Peace, and His Presence in my life!**

**\*\*In this introductory I’ve given you the real reason we come to church and what should be the reason behind coming to church.**

**\*\*However, in our text the psalmist asked, “who shall abide in thy tabernacle?” Then he answered the question.**

**\*\*I’m preaching this so that God will speak to your heart and help you to abide in God’s house and keep sin out of your life!**

**\*\*So Who Shall Abide?**

**I. NOTICE THE QUESTIONS TO PONDER**

 **Psalms 15:1 LORD, who shall abide in thy tabernacle? who shall dwell in thy holy hill?**

 **A. Those with Genuine Passion**

 **1. Passion to Experience the Communion**

 **2. Passion to Enjoy the Comforter**

 **3. Passion to Embrace the Christ**

 **B. Those with a Genuine Purpose**

**\*\*If our real purpose is to abide in God’s House and abide in God’s Holiness . . .**

 **1. We’ll want to be Checked**

**Psalms 139:23-24 23 Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts:** [**24**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Psalms-139-24/)**And see if *there be any* wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.**

 **2. We’ll want to be Corrected**

 **3. We’ll want to be Changed**

 **C. Those with a Genuine Preference**

**\*\*People’s preferences in why they come to God’s house tells us if they will abide in God’s house.**

**\*\*Those who come for a program, a performance, or a personality will not abide in the Lord’s house!**

 **1. I believe those who prefer the real Word of God will abide in the Lord’s house.**

 **2. I believe those who prefer the real Worship of God will abide in the Lord’s house.**

**\*\*If you’re going to abide in the Lord’s house and dwell in His holy hills, make sure your Passion, your Purpose, and your Preferences are right and genuine!**

**II. NOTICE THE QUALITIES TO POSSES**

**\*\*Who shall abide in God’s house?**

 **A. Those with an Honorable Walk**

**Psalms 15:2 [2](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Psalms-15-2/%22%20%5Co%20%22View%20more%20info%20for%20Psalms%2015%3A2)He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart.**

 **1. We need people who will walk with Certain Standards**

 **2. We need people who will walk with Careful Separations**

 **3. We need people who will walk with Christ’s Spirit**

**I John 2:6 He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.**

 **B. Those with an Honest Word**

**Psalms 15:3 *He that* backbiteth not with his tongue, nor doeth evil to his neighbour, nor taketh up a reproach against his neighbour.**

 **1. Unbridled Tongues hinders Friendships with Christians**

 **2. Unbridled Tongues hinders Fellowship with Christ**

**\*\*Unbridled tongues are tongues that use Cuss Words, Cutting Words, Chattering Words, Crooked Words, Crafty Words, and Counterfeit Words and those who use such words brings evil and reproach to his neighbor and will not abide in God’s house!**

 **C. Those with an Humble Witness**

**Psalms 15:4 [4](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Psalms-15-4/%22%20%5Co%20%22View%20more%20info%20for%20Psalms%2015%3A4)In whose eyes a vile person is contemned; but he honoureth them that fear the LORD. *He that* sweareth to *his own* hurt, and changeth not.**

**\*\*Many are not in God’s house today because they lost their testimony and humble witness. How did they lose it?**

 **1. They sell out to Vile Deeds for Popularity**

 **2. They sell out to Vicious Dishonesty for Profits**

**\*\*Our verse tells us that those who will honor them that fear the Lord and keeps promises even if it is to his own disadvantage and stays the same in these things will stay in God’s house.**

 **D. Those with a Hospitable Way**

**Psalms 15:5 [5](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Psalms-15-5/%22%20%5Co%20%22View%20more%20info%20for%20Psalms%2015%3A5)*He that* putteth not out his money to usury, nor taketh reward against the innocent. He that doeth these *things* shall never be moved.**

**\*\*Two words to define:**

 **a. Usury - Jews were forbidden to make loans to fellow Jews for the purpose of collecting interest on the loan. The thought here is that believers are forbidden to take advantage of fellow believers.**

 **b. Reward - The word reward here means taking bribes against the innocent. The thought here is that believers are to be honest in their dealings!**

 **1. Deceitful Greed will remove you from God’s Presence and God’s House.**

 **2. Dishonest Gain will remove you from God’s Presence and God’s House.**

**\*\*If you’re going to abide in the Lord’s house and dwell in His holy hills, make sure your Walk is Honorable, your Words are Honest, your Witness is Humble, and your Ways are Hospitable!**

**III. NOTICE THE QUALIFICATIONS TO PRESENT**

**\*\*Those who abide in God’s House will have . . .**

 **A. An Attitude of Seeking**

**Isaiah 55:6 Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near:**

 **1. Have a Desire to Seek Him**

 **2. Have a Dedication to Seeking Him**

 **B. An Attitude of Sacrifice**

**\*\*Sacrificing should be a Priority, a Precedence, a Principle, and a Preference!**

**\*\*Sacrifice your Motives, your Moments, your Money, and your Mind all for Christ!**

 **C. An Attitude of Submission**

**II Chronicles 15:12 And they entered into a covenant to seek the LORD God of their fathers with all their heart and with all their soul;**

 **1. Make a Sworn Promise to God to be Submissive**

 **2. Make a Solid Promise to God to be Submissive**

 **D. An Attitude of Sincerity**

**\*\*Our attitude is not sincere if it is . . .**

 **1. A Carnal Attitude**

**\*\*Carnality is all about pleasing the flesh and has nothing to do with pleasing the Holy Spirit!**

 **2. A Casual Attitude**

**\*\*Some attend church so they can casually say they went to church, and it had nothing to do with seeking God.**

 **3. A Catastrophic Attitude**

**\*\*To some abiding in God’s house is a Misery and a Misfortune!**

**\*\*If you’re going to abide in the Lord’s house and dwell in His holy hills, make sure you have an attitude of Seeking, Sacrifice, Submission, and Sincerity!**

**CLOSE**

**1. Who among you shall abide in the tabernacle (in God’s house)? Who among you will dwell on the holy hills of God?**

**2. Many of you have been here a long time and still abiding! The life you live says that you will still abide in God’s house until your health fails you.**

**3. There are some who have come and now they are not here and they no longer abide in God’s house. Why? All you have to do is look at their reasons for coming to God’s house in the first place, and then look at the way they lived outside the church.**

**4. But what about you that are here today that are young in the Lord or haven’t been in this church very long. Will you abide? Will you be here 30 or more years from now still abiding in God’s house?**

**5. Do you have the goods? Do you have all the qualities the Psalmist spoke about that assures God that you will abide in God’s house?**

**\*\*How about coming and praying and asking God to help you have the right qualities and qualifications to stay and abide in God’s house?**