**HOW TO BEHAVE IN THE HOUSE OF GOD
I Timothy 3:14-15**

**14 These things write I unto thee, hoping to come unto thee shortly: 15 But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.**

**INTRO:**

**\*\*Can you imagine how disorganized an unruly the early church was when the church started?**

**\*\*Paul kept giving the early church instruction concerning how to behave in God’s house. For instance . . .**

**\*\*I Corinthians 14:33 33**[**For God is not *the author* of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/1-Corinthians-14-33/)

**\*\*I Corinthians 14:40 40**[**Let all things be done decently and in order.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/1-Corinthians-14-40/)

**\*\*Our behavior in the House of God must be permissible, proclaimed, and practiced in church! So here is a test . . .**

**1. Does our behavior in God’s house show Honor?**

**Ecclesiastes 5:1 1**[**Keep thy foot when thou goest to the house of God, and be more ready to hear, than to give the sacrifice of fools: for they consider not that they do evil.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Ecclesiastes-5-1/)

 **A. Notice the Honorable Approach**

**\*\*Keep thy foot when thou goest to the house of God speaks of . . .**

 **1) Our Walk**

**\*\*Are you walking with God with honor before you ever walk into the house of God?**

 **2) Our Worship**

**\*\*Are you worshiping God with honor by worshiping in Spirit and Truth?**

 **B. Notice the Honorable Actions**

**\*\*God’s house is where we Listen to God, Love on God, and Latch onto God!**

**\*\* Instead of Listening, Loving, and Latching, most people’s actions in God’s house are just Looney!**

**\*\*It’s the sacrifice of fools who do not even consider they are doing evil with their looney actions!**

**2. Does our behavior in God’s house show Holiness?**

 **A. A Christian’s Guidelines is to be Holiness**

**I Peter 1:16 15**[**But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation;**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/1-Peter-1-15/) **16**[**Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/1-Peter-1-16/)

 **B. A Church’s Guidelines is to be Holiness**

**Psalms 93:5 5**[**Thy testimonies are very sure: holiness becometh thine house, O LORD, for ever.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Psalms-93-5/)

**\*\*God’s house is not just another public building, a auditorium, or some kind of theatre!**

**\*\*We do not worship this building or the ground it stands on, but we do treat God’s house with respect and holiness!**

**\*\*We don’t smoke in God’s house. We don’t chew tobacco in God’s house. We don’t bring concessions, cokes, hot dogs, burgers, pizza, and fries into the sanctuary of God’s house.**

**\*\*We don’t come in our pajamas, shorts, nastiness and sloppiness as Christians into God’s house! Why? Because “holiness becometh thy house, O LORD, for ever.”**

**3. Does our behavior in God’s house show Humbleness?**

**I Peter 5:5-6 [be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/1-Peter-5-5/%22%20%5Co%20%22View%20more%20translations%20of%201%20Peter%205%3A5) 6**[**Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time:**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/1-Peter-5-6/)

**\*\*If you were about to approach the throne of God in heaven, would you approach it the way you come into God’s house?**

**\*\*We must come into God’s house treating it with respect and sacredness in all humility!**

**\*\*When we come into God’s house our behavior should be humble enough that we . . .**

 **A. REMEMBER THE GOODNESS OF GOD**

**\*\*When I reflect on the goodness of God, I think about:**

 **1. The salvation that He has promised**

**\*\*I’m humbled by the Grace found in salvation and the Greatness found in salvation.**

 **2. The security that He has promised**

**Hebrews 13:5 . . . he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.**

 **B. REVERENCE THE GREATNESS OF GOD**

**\*\*When I consider the greatness of God, I think about:**

 **1. The words of the seraphims**

**Isaiah 6:3 And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory.**

**\*\*Our behavior should approach God’s house and the worship service as Holy, Holy, Holy!**

 **2. The worship of the saints**

**The Revelation 5:12 Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing.**

 **C. REFUSE THE GRIEVING OF GOD**

**When I think about grieving God, I think about:**

 **1. The example that God has given**

**Hebrews 3:10 Wherefore I was grieved with that generation, and said, They do alway err in their heart; and they have not known my ways.**

**\*\*I do not want my behavior or your behavior in God’s house to grieve God!**

 **2. The exhortation that God has given**

**Ephesians 4:30 And grieve not the holy Spirit of God,**

**I Thessalonians 5:19 Quench not the Spirit.**

**\*\*Some behavior is unacceptable in God’s house, and it grieves the Holy Spirit and quenches the Holy Spirit.**

**Illustrations: 1) In one church I pastored, a lady would pick up a Christian newspaper in the foyer and read it during church. 2) I’ve seen old men chew tobacco and spit out the door or in a cup during service. 3) At one revival I preached, the parents would allow their kids to run all over the church around the altar, bang on the piano, and run in the choir without even trying to go get them. 4) I’ve seen adults bring cokes and snacks into God’s house – not for their kids, but for them own selves to consume! 5) I’ve heard of one lady lighting up a cigarette while sitting on the back row of the church.**

**\*\*We must ask ourselves these questions: Does our behavior in God’s house show Honor, Holiness, and Humbleness?**

**\*\*My introduction has basically told you how you shouldn’t behave in church. I want to focus on how you should behave in church!**

**Body – How to Behave in the House of God**

**I. Behave Like You're Saved**

**Ezra 3:11-13 11**[**And they sang together by course in praising and giving thanks unto the LORD; because *he is* good, for his mercy *endureth* for ever toward Israel. And all the people shouted with a great shout, when they praised the LORD, because the foundation of the house of the LORD was laid.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Ezra-3-11/) **12**[**But many of the priests and Levites and chief of the fathers, *who were* ancient men, that had seen the first house, when the foundation of this house was laid before their eyes, wept with a loud voice; and many shouted aloud for joy:**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Ezra-3-12/) **13**[**So that the people could not discern the noise of the shout of joy from the noise of the weeping of the people: for the people shouted with a loud shout, and the noise was heard afar off.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Ezra-3-13/)

**\*\*These folks were behaving like they were saved, and so should you!**

 **A. When you Speak**

**Psalms 40:9-10 9**[**I have preached righteousness in the great congregation: lo, I have not refrained my lips, O LORD, thou knowest.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Psalms-40-9/) **10**[**I have not hid thy righteousness within my heart; I have declared thy faithfulness and thy salvation: I have not concealed thy lovingkindness and thy truth from the great congregation.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Psalms-40-10/)

 **1. Testify of His Goodness**

**Psalms 107:1-2 1**[**O give thanks unto the LORD, for *he is* good: for his mercy *endureth* for ever.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Psalms-107-1/) **2**[**Let the redeemed of the LORD say *so*, whom he hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy;**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Psalms-107-2/)

 **2. Testify of His Grace**

**Psalms 66:16 16**[**Come *and* hear, all ye that fear God, and I will declare what he hath done for my soul.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Psalms-66-16/)

 **B. When you Sing**

**Psalms 104:33 33**[**I will sing unto the LORD as long as I live: I will sing praise to my God while I have my being.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Psalms-104-33/)

**\*\*Behave like your saved when you sing! Put your heart into it and sing unto the Lord!
 1. Sing with God's Power**

**Colossians 3:16 16**[**Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Colossians-3-16/) **2. Sing with God's Presence**

**I Corinthians 14:15 [I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also.](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/1-Corinthians-14-15/%22%20%5Co%20%22View%20more%20translations%20of%201%20Corinthians%2014%3A15)
 a. In your soul
 b. In your spirit**

**\*\*Know who you are singing about and what you are singing about!**

 **C. When you Shout**

**Psalms 47:1 [O clap your hands, all ye people; shout unto God with the voice of triumph.](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Psalms-47-1/%22%20%5Co%20%22View%20more%20translations%20of%20Psalms%2047%3A1)
 1. Let Your Shout Be Heard
 2. Let Your Shout Be Holy**

**Luke 17:15 15**[**And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, and with a loud voice glorified God,**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Luke-17-15/)

**Illustration: I’ve been in services where the shout was not real. It was loud, but there was no holiness or power in the shout. It was just a noise! It ought to be evident that our shout is because we are overwhelmed by the Holy Ghost!**

**\*\*How should we behave in God’s house? Behave like you are saved!**

**II. Behave Like You're Somebody**

**Galatians 3:26-27 26**[**For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Galatians-3-26/) **27**[**For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Galatians-3-27/)

**\*\*Behave and act like you are somebody who is a child of God because that is what you are!**

 **A. God Made You A Privileged Heir**

**Galatians 3:29 29**[**And if ye *be* Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Galatians-3-29/)

**Romans 8:16-17 16**[**The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Romans-8-16/) **17**[**And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ;**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Romans-8-17/)

**\*\*Because you are a child of the King,**

 **1. You have the Privilege to Praise**

**\*\*The world cannot and will not praise Him, but you can because you are an heir!**

 **2. You have the Privilege to Pray**

**\*\*The only prayer a sinner can pray is “Lord save me.” But as a privilege heir, you have access to the throne of God 24/7!**

 **3. You have the Privilege to Possessions**

**\*\*As a child of God you have the riches and possessions of the Spirit, being Spirit-filled, being Sanctified, and being Satisfied! These are possessions the world does not have!**

 **B. God Made You A Pure Heart**

**Psalms 51:10 10**[**Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Psalms-51-10/)

**Philippians 3:14-15 14**[**I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Philippians-3-14/)

**15**[**Let us therefore, as many as be perfect, be thus minded:**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Philippians-3-15/)

**\*\*Behave like you are somebody with a Prized Heart and a Perfect Heart.**

 **C. God Made You A Promised Home**

**I Corinthians 2:9 9**[**But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/1-Corinthians-2-9/)

**\*\*Behave and rejoice like you are somebody that has . . .**

 **1. A Holy Place**

 **2. A Heavenly Palace**

**Illustration: I’ve been in meetings where there were God’s people who could barely get around. However, when the Lord came by and reminded them they were somebody that is a Privilege Heir, with a Pure Heart, and with a Promised Home, they would stand and shout, testify, lift their hands and praise God just because they realized they were somebody! If you are saved, you are somebody in the eyes of the Lord!**

**\*\*How should we behave in God’s house? Behave like you are Somebody!**

**III. Behave Like Your Savior**

**I John 2:6 6**[**He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/1-John-2-6/)

**Philippians 2:5 5**[**Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Philippians-2-5/)

**\*\*When you are saved, you will behave like your Savior by having the march and the mind of Christ!**

 **A. Love the Brethren**

**John 13:34-35 34**[**A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/John-13-34/) **35**[**By this shall all *men* know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/John-13-35/)

**\*\*If you are not loving the brethren, then you are not behaving like you should in God’s house!
 1. Be a Close Family**

**Matthew 12:50 50**[**For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Matthew-12-50/)

**\*\*Behave like your church family is your closest family!
 2. Be a Close Friend**

**\*\*Jesus is a friend that will stick closer than a brother to you, and you should behave in church the same way!**

 **B. Live the Bible**

**James 1:22 22**[**But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/James-1-22/) **1. Be Truthful**

**Proverbs 12:22 22**[**Lying lips *are* abomination to the LORD: but they that deal truly *are* his delight.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Proverbs-12-22/) **2. Be Teaching**

**\*\*Teach God’s Word and Teach God’s Ways
 3. Be True**

**\*\*Be Forthright and Faithful!**

**CLOSE:**

**1. We often tell our children to behave in church.**

**2. I wonder if God has ever leaned over and told you to behave yourself in the house of God?**

**3. I believe the Lord wants to tell somebody today to behave in the house of God like You're Saved, like You're Somebody, and like Your Savior!**

**4. Some people can't behave accordingly IN church because they can't behave appropriately OUT of church!**

**5. If we are saved and right with God it's time to Behave Ourselves in the House of God appropriately and accordingly!**

**\*\*Why don’t you come to the Lord right now and prayand say Lord help me to behave myself in church that shows Honor, Holiness, and Humbleness!**

**\*\*How long has it been since you behaved in church like you’re saved, like you’re somebody, like your Savior?**

**\*\*How about coming and spending time with God until you can behave like you should in God’s house when you sing, shout, or speak? Come pray now!**