

Title: Lord, Who's Going to Heaven?

Scripture: Psalm 15

Speaker: Vic Redding

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Psalm 15 (A Psalm of David): *"LORD, who shall abide in thy tabernacle? who shall dwell in thy holy hill? 2 He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart. 3 He that backbiteth not with his tongue, nor doeth evil to his neighbour, nor taketh up a reproach against his neighbour. 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 He that putteth not out his money to usury, nor taketh reward against the innocent. He that doeth these things shall never be moved."*

This is a psalm of integrity and righteous living. If we ask the question "Who's going to heaven?" to a group of people, we'll probably get as many answers as there are people. Everyone has their own opinion on who is going and why. Our eternal life in heaven is not based on works. It is based on the relationship we have with Jesus Christ.

1. Who shall go to heaven? Verse 1 mentions two words. The words abide and dwell are different. To *abide* is a temporary location and to *dwell* is an eternal location. What kind of people will be in heaven?
  - a. It is not by one's personal name, but the name God knows them by. II Timothy 2:19 says *"Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity."* God knows who we are and we will not be forgotten by him.
  - b. It is not by one's personal achievements that one gets to heaven. We will not get to heaven because of something good that we've done for someone else. Believing on the Lord Jesus Christ is the only way that we can get to heaven. We have to repent and believe.

In the book of Isaiah (5:14 *"Therefore hell hath enlarged herself, and opened her mouth without measure: and their glory, and their multitude, and their pomp, and he that rejoiceth, shall descend into it."*) it says that hell enlarges itself daily, but it never mentions anything about heaven increasing.

2. The description of heaven's residents:
  - a. The person that goes to heaven is sincere about submitting himself to God. If you never submit yourself to God, you will never enjoy serving him. His will should have priority over what our will.
  - b. The person is faithful in walking before God and men. Is your life a reproach to other people when it comes to being a *true* Christian? You have to be able to talk the talk and more importantly WALK the WALK. Saying and doing are two different things but both are required in the Christian life. We must be careful about our attitude. A Christian who cannot control their temper makes themselves foolish.
  - c. The person's prayers, professions and promises are not done with hypocrisy or lying lips. What have you promised God lately? Don't EVER promise God something and then turn your back on him.
  - d. The person is one who bridles his tongue. James 1:26 says *"If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain."* The one that goes to heaven tries to abstain from saying anything that would destroy a relationship – this includes gossip. They try to see the best in everybody.
  - e. The person desires to good among others. Proverbs 24:28 says *"Be not a witness against thy neighbour without cause; and deceive not with thy lips."*
  - f. The person might hear something bad on somebody, but instead of repeating it to others he keeps it inside and lets it die.

- g. Verse 4 mentions four things about the person who is going to heaven: The person condemns sin and does not compromise with the wicked. Sin is SIN. If it's wrong it's wrong. He does not honor the sinner but does honor those that follow the Lord. He's glad for an opportunity to show them respect and to do well for their laboring. He lets people know that they are a blessing just by living their lives. Are you encouraging to others? He seeks to help even at the possibility of not gaining anything from the situation. Are we willing to sacrifice our own personal gain in order for someone else to gain something?
- h. The person will not increase himself with unjust actions. Whatever is being done has no ulterior motive. He will not do anything for gain that would hurt another person.
- i. There's one final thing said about this person who is going to heaven: t
- j. he person will stand faithful in obeying the Lord. Temptations will not overcome him, troubles will not overwhelm him, nothing shall rob him of his present peace and future promises.