

PRAYING THROUGH OUR FREEDOM

Psalm 15:1-5; 24:3-4; 26:1-12

Intro: A Psalm For The 4th of July

Who Gets To Hang Out In God's Tent On His Holy Mountain?

"LORD, who may dwell in your sacred tent? Who may live on your holy mountain?"² The one whose walk is blameless, who does what is righteous, who speaks the truth from their heart;³ whose tongue utters no slander, who does no wrong to a neighbor, and casts no slur on others;⁴ who despises a vile person but honors those who fear the LORD; who keeps an oath even when it hurts, and does not change their mind;⁵ who lends money to the poor without interest; who does not accept a bribe against the innocent. Whoever does these things will never be shaken."

Psalm 24:3-4 *"Who may ascend the mountain of the LORD? Who may stand in his holy place? ⁴The one who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not trust in an idol or swear by a false god."*

How Can I Dwell With God When My Life and Behavior Is Broken?

Romans 3:23 *"All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."*

Psalm 14:3 *"All have turned away, all have become corrupt; there is no one who does good, not even one."*

God's dilemma and ours: 1) God's nature is love 2) God's nature is holy

2 Corinthians 5:21 *"God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God."*

Romans 3:25-26 *"For God presented Jesus as the sacrifice for sin. People are made right with God when they believe that Jesus sacrificed his life, shedding his blood. This sacrifice shows that God was being fair when he held back and did not punish those who sinned in times past, ²⁶for he was looking ahead and including them in what he would do in this present time. God did this to demonstrate his righteousness, for he himself is fair and just, and he makes sinners right in his sight when they believe in Jesus."*

Romans 10:9-10 *"If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by openly declaring your faith that you are saved."*

With Christ, There's Forgiveness But Also True Freedom!

"Now that I'm a Christian, does that mean that I get to live however I want?"

Freedom doesn't mean that we get to do whatever we want. Freedom means that we've been set free to live the good life that God has always meant for us to enjoy.

A Popular Story About Pseudo Versus Real Freedom

Dare To Live With True Freedom By Always Basking In God's Love

Psalm 26 *"Vindicate me, LORD, for I have led a blameless life . . ."*

Psalm 15:1-5 (NIV)

“LORD, who may dwell in your sacred tent? Who may live on your holy mountain?”² The one whose walk is blameless, who does what is righteous, who speaks the truth from their heart; ³ whose tongue utters no slander, who does no wrong to a neighbor, and casts no slur on others; ⁴ who despises a vile person but honors those who fear the LORD; who keeps an oath even when it hurts, and does not change their mind; ⁵ who lends money to the poor without interest; who does not accept a bribe against the innocent. Whoever does these things will never be shaken.”

Psalm 24:3-4

“Who may ascend the mountain of the LORD? Who may stand in his holy place? The one who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not trust in an idol or swear by a false god.”

Romans 3:23

“All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.”

Psalm 14:3

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2 Corinthians 5:21

“God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.”

Romans 3:25-26 (NLT)

“For God presented Jesus as the sacrifice for sin. People are made right with God when they believe that Jesus sacrificed his life, shedding his blood. This sacrifice shows that God was being fair when he held back and did not punish those who sinned in times past, for he was looking ahead and including them in what he would do in this present time. God did this to demonstrate his righteousness, for he himself is fair and just, and he makes sinners right in his sight when they believe in Jesus.”

Romans 10:9-10 (NLT)

“If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by openly declaring your faith that you are saved.”

Psalm 26:1-12

“Vindicate me, LORD, for I have led a blameless life; I have trusted in the LORD and have not faltered. ² Test me, LORD, and try me, examine my heart and my mind; ³ for I have always been mindful of your unfailing love and have lived in reliance on your faithfulness. ⁴ I do not sit with the deceitful, nor do I associate with hypocrites. ⁵ I abhor the assembly of evildoers and refuse to sit with the wicked. ⁶ I wash my hands in innocence, and go about your altar, LORD, ⁷ proclaiming aloud your praise and telling of all your wonderful deeds. ⁸ LORD, I love the house where you live, the place where your glory dwells. ⁹ Do not take away my soul along with sinners, my life with those who are bloodthirsty, ¹⁰ in whose hands are wicked schemes, whose right hands are full of bribes. ¹¹ I lead a blameless life; deliver me and be merciful to me. ¹² My feet stand on level ground; in the great congregation I will praise the LORD.”