NEVER BEING MOVED

**DATE: 4/19/2015 am**

**TEXT: Psalm 15:1-5**

**INTRODUCTION**

We live in a day when people are hoisting their anchors and drifting out onto Life’s sea

Society is changing the moral standard and the way someone thinks about right and wrong

They are throwing everything to the wind

These changes can be witnessed not only in society …

But also in our churches

As Believers though … we must look to what the Bible teaches so that this doesn’t happen to us

**Psalm 15:5b – *“He that doeth these things shall never be moved”***

The Word of God says we can come to a place in our life where we are not moved away from what is right

Our God says clearly that there are *certain things we can do* so that we are Never Moved!

So many are vacillating, unable to make up their minds

**James 1:8** warns - ***“A double minded man is unstable in all his ways”***

We need to find out what these things are that will help us stand firmly and then be obedient to them

It is so important that we start right …

But God help us understand how important it is to Finish right!

Most people are moving in the wrong direction

We need to deal with what is causing us to drift before we arrive where we never intended to go

Let’s pray and look at **Psalm 15** and this thought

**“Never Being Moved”**

**~~~Prayer~~~**

**I. THE “BIBLE’S QUESTION” – v.1**

As we begin this Psalm we are confronted with a Question

***“LORD, who shall abide in thy tabernacle? who shall dwell in thy holy hill?”***

Most questions (especially ones found in the Bible) are not intended to be open ended,

That is … allowing us to formulate our own answer,

But, rather to bring us to the specific conclusion

**A. First…‘Salvation’**

***“LORD, who shall abide in thy tabernacle?***

The Building of the Tabernacle is given us in **Ex. 25:8**

The Tabernacle was designed to be the dwelling place of God on earth

***“LORD …who shall dwell in thy holy hill?”***

The Holy Hill was Mt. Zion in Jerusalem

We might call it the Temple Mount today

This part was all future when this Psalm was being written (For the Temple had not been built yet)

But …both parts of this question are speaking about dwelling in the presence of God

Our God is Holy, and to dwell in His presents would mean that anything that does … must be Holy as well

I must tell you, quite frankly, the answer is that no one is able to do this on their own

Why? We are all sinners

**Romans 3:23 – *“For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;”***

We are all members of the sinful human race

**Romans 3:10 –** ***“As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:”***

There are no exceptions

Therefore … God send forth His Son

Born of a woman, robed in flesh

**Philippians 2:8 –** ***“And being found in fashion as a man, He humbled Himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross”***

If it were not for the finished work of Christ on the Cross

None of us would be able to stand in the Presence of a Holy God!

There is no one that has meet the Prefect Standard set by God … Save the Lord Jesus Christ

**II Corinthians 5:21 – *“For He [The Father] hath made Him [The Son] to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him”***

We must realize our sin has offended God

We must ask God to forgive our sin for Christ’s sake

We need to realize … Jesus alone as paid the price for our sin

**Romans10:13 – *“(There) … For, whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved”***

If you’re not saved, would you receive the free gift of eternal life today?

**Ephesians 2:8 – *“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:”***

The question asked is …

***“…who shall abide in thy tabernacle? …who shall dwell in thy holy hill?”***

The answer is that none of us can come into the Present of God apart from the finished work of Christ

We can dwell there only as we have been made pure by His precious blood, and made righteous by His imputed righteousness

Salvation is a simple matter / even a child can understand it

But not everyone gets it, why? No true repentance

If someone won’t repent at the conviction of the Holy Spirit … there is no salvation

**Matthew 7:21-23 …**

I pray that won’t be you today

This Question is raised that we might see our need for

**‘Salvation’**

**B. Then … ‘Sanctification’**

What have we done with the Truth … the teaching of the Holiness of God?

Yes anyone can be saved who will in humility and repentance call upon the name of the Lord

 But the Bible also teaches that we have been created for good work

We need to Live the Christian life

**Ephesians 2:10 *– “For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them”***

The First thing we must do so that we are Never Moved

Is to Get Saved!

**THAT’S THE “BIBLE’S QUESTION”**

Remember, I said that any Bible Question is not Open Ended?

Not intended for us to just say what we think

But rather, we need to find the Bible response

Therefore, let’s look at …

**II. THE “BELIEVER’S ANSWER” – vs. 2-5a**

The Bible asks – ***“…who shall abide in thy tabernacle? who shall dwell in thy holy hill?”***

The obvious answer is … those who by Faith have trusted Christ

So how do we know those who are Trusting Christ alone

The Answer is …

Found in **vs. 2-5a**

***“He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart” “He that backbiteth not with his tongue, nor doeth evil to his neighbour, nor taketh up a reproach against his neighbour” “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” “He that putteth not out his money to usury, nor taketh reward against the innocent …”***

The Lord provides a list of 11 things we should pay attention to

The Christian life is Living for, Abiding in, and Following

after … Christ

He is to be our all in all

No one has been able to meet God’s requirements … save Christ

The goal of the Christian’s life should be to live a Christ-like life

This God-given list does not save us,

But rather are some things that will be evident

We do what we do because we are already the Children of God, not to become a child of God

Someone should live as this list prescribes because they want to be identified with those who have truly come to know Christ as Saviour

-- Walk uprightly

-- Work righteousness

-- Speak truthfully

-- Don’t backbite with your tongue

-- Don’t do evil to your neighbor

-- Don’t take up reproach against your neighbor

-- Have contempt for vile people

-- Honor those that fear God

-- Keep your word, no matter what it cost

-- Use your finances to be a blessing to others

-- Do not take reward against the innocent

**A. Things we are to Choose – vs.2, 4, 5**

There are several things the Lord tells us to Choose

**1.** To Walk upright **– v.2a**

***“He that walketh uprightly,”***

Honorably

Blameless in their walk

**Phil. 2:15 – “*That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world;”***

**II Peter 3:14 – *“Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of Him in peace, without spot, and blameless”***

**2.** To Work Righteousness **– v.2b**

***“He that … worketh righteousness,”***

Holy (set apart)

Not only does he not do what is wrong …

But actively does that which is right

**III John 11 – *“Beloved, follow not that which is evil, but that which is good. He that doeth good is of God: but he that doeth evil hath not seen God”***

**I Peter 3:11 – *“Let him eschew evil, and do good; let him seek peace, and ensue it”***

**Eschew -***Avoid; shun; turn aside from*

**3.** To Speak Truthfully **– v.2c**

***“He that … speaketh the truth in his heart”***

Honesty

His words reveal the condition of his heart

**Matt. 12:34 –** ***“O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh”***

**Luke 6:45 – *“A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh”***

He is honest with himself and he is honest with others

And most importantly he is Honest with God

His Walk and Works are Righteous

But so are his Ways

**4.** Has Contempt for vile persons **– v.4a**

***“In whose eyes a vile person is contemned;***

***“contemned”*** means to *despise, not to have a high regard for*

We are not to laugh with people who mock sin

We are not to laugh with the fool who scoffs at God

The entire TV sitcom industry is based on making fun of Decency, Morality and the Family structure plainly taught in the Word of God

But we are to …

**5.** Honors those who fear the Lord **– v.4b**

***“…but he honoureth them that fear the LORD”***

We need to go out of our way to pay respect to those who fear God and try to do right

**Romans 13:7 *– “Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour”***

**I Peter 2:17 *– “Honour all men. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honour the king”***

**Roman 12:10 *– “Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another;”***

**6.** Keep your word, no matter the cost **– v.4c**

***“He that sweareth to his own hurt, and changeth not”***

He Has Convictions Concerning His Words

He will stand by his word, even if doing so costs him everything he has

His word is his bond!

**I John 2:5 – *“But whoso keepeth His word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in Him”***

Doesn’t God keep His Word?

I’d like to know believers who can be counted on

Do you know what they call people who don’t keep their word?

**7.** Use your finances to be a blessing to others **– v. 5a**

***“He that putteth not out his money to usury,”***

He Has Convictions Concerning His Wealth

He uses his resources wisely and he doesn’t use what he has to gain an unfair advantage over others

***“Usury”*** - *The illegal practice of lending money at unreasonably high rates of interest*

His own prosperity is viewed as a gift from the Lord and not as something that gives him power in the lives of others

**Proverbs 3:9, 10 – *“Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase:” “So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine”***

**Things we are to Choose**

Then there are …

**B. Things we are to Refuse – vs.3, 5**

**1.** Don’t Backbite **– v.3a**

***“He that backbiteth not with his tongue”***

He is Careful with his Words

**“*backbiteth*”** means *to spy out*

A man of integrity is not in the business of gossip, or that of finding fault with others

**Roman 1:30 –** ***“Backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents”***

**II Corinthians 12:20 *– “For I fear, lest, when I come, I shall not find you such as I would, and that I shall be found unto you such as ye would not: lest there be debates, envyings, wraths, strifes, backbitings, whisperings, swellings, tumults”***

Did you notice the company of a Backbiter

**2.** Don’t do evil to your neighbor **– v. 3b**

***“nor doeth evil to his neighbour”***

He is Careful in his Walk

He treats others as he would want to be treated

He does not take advantage of others

He is fair in his dealings

**Matt. 7:12 *– “Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets”***

**Matt. 22:39b – *“…Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself”***

 **3.** Don’t take up a reproach **- v.3c**

***“nor taketh up a reproach against his neighbour”***

He is Careful in his Ways

**“*taketh up*”** means *to carry*

**“*reproach*”** means *a shame, a word of scorn, a taunt*

When we hear something about someone else

We don’t share it

When it comes to us, it dies with us!

(Unless it is something that can cause harm)

**4.** Don’t take a reward against the innocent **– v.5b**

***“nor taketh reward against the innocent”***

We are not to be involved in anything that might be considered bribery

**Exodus 23:8 – *“And thou shalt take no gift: for the gift blindeth the wise, and perverteth the words of the righteous”***

The Philistine leaders bribed Delilah

Haman bribed King Ahasuerus to destroy the Jews

The Chief priests bribed Judas

Governor Felix sought a bribe from Paul

**Proverbs 17:23 *– “A wicked man taketh a gift out of the bosom to pervert the ways of judgment”***

**Proverbs 18:16 *– “A man's gift maketh room for him, and bringeth him before great men”***

The Bible asks the Question and the Believer gives the answer by the way he lives

How can others tell that you are a Christian?

We let a lost world know that we are Christians both by the Things we Choose and the Things we Refuse

**THE “BIBLE’S QUESTION”**

**THE “BELIEVER’S ANSWER”**

**III. THE “BLESSED ASSURANCE” – v.5b**

***“…He that doeth these things shall never be moved”***

**A. A Positive Statement**

**“*doeth*”** means *to do; or to produce*

This word refers to a person's *employment*

It speaks of a lifestyle of positive living

The man of integrity makes it his business to do all the things mentioned in the previous verses

**B. A Profound Stedfastness**

***“moved”*** means *to totter, shake, or slip*

The man who does these things and lives a life of godly integrity is promised that he will never be shaken or slip away from that place of close fellowship and communion with God

This seems to be a promise that God will support those who live for Him

**Psalm 17:5 – *“Hold up my goings in thy paths, that my footsteps slip not”***

**Psalm 18:36 – *“Thou hast enlarged my steps under me, that my feet did not slip”***

**Psalm 119:117 *–“Hold thou me up, and I shall be safe: and I will have respect unto thy statutes continually”***

The Promise is …

***“he that doeth these things shall never be moved”***

I don’t know about you, but I want to be …

**I Corinthians 15:58 – *“… stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord”***

**CONCLUSION**

**THE “BIBLE’S QUESTION”**

**THE “BELIEVER’S ANSWER”**

**THE “BLESSED ASSURANCE”**