

IMPACT

I **M**ust **P**ersonally **A**cknowledge **C**hrist **T**oday
Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; *in all your ways acknowledge Him* and He shall direct your path.
Proverbs 3:5-6

Passage: Psalm 15:1 “LORD, who may abide in Your tabernacle? Who may dwell in Your holy hill?”

Quote: From Part I: Would I be considered by those who know me best as a person of integrity? Do I consistently look for ways to be an instrument of righteousness through opportunities that God brings my way? Do I make the study, assimilation and application of God’s Word a top priority in the battle for my time?

What should characterize an individual who has been saved from the penalty for sin by grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone for the glory of God alone? In this IMPACT, we continue to mine the answer from Psalm 15.

Godly Character Part II

“He who does not backbite with his tongue, Nor does evil to his neighbor, Nor does he take up a reproach against his friend.” All who may abide in God’s tabernacle carefully govern their **INTERACTIONS** with others in their speech, behavior and thoughts. In other words, they avoid speaking evil about their neighbor, committing evil actions towards their neighbor¹ and thinking evil thoughts of their neighbor.²

He “in whose eyes a vile person is despised, but he honors those who fear the LORD.” All who may dwell in God’s tabernacle **INVESTIGATE** a person’s true character and respond accordingly. They reject a vile, or morally worthless person. [One example would be some of the Hollywood “elite.” who “draw sin as if with a cart rope...and call evil good and good evil....”³] In contrast, they hold in high esteem all of those who fear the LORD, who look upon Him with awe and adoration, and seek to apply that to their thoughts, words and deeds.⁴

“He who swears to his own hurt and does not change.” All who may dwell in God’s tabernacle are people who are **IRREPROACHABLE** when it comes to giving their word. Their word is their bond. They are above reproach when it comes to keeping their promises no matter what the personal outcome may be.⁵

“He who does not put out his money at usury, Nor does he take a bribe against the innocent.” All who may

dwell in God’s tabernacle are **IMPECCABLE** in their business dealings. They cannot be bought, and will not be bribed to injure the innocent..⁷

According to Psalm 15, what are the consequences of a person who has this character and conduct. **“...He who does these things shall never be moved.”** Spurgeon: concludes that “No storm shall tear him from his foundations, drag him from his anchorage, or uproot him from his place. Like the Lord Jesus, whose dominion is everlasting, the true Christian shall never lose his crown. He shall not only be on Zion, but like Zion, fixed and firm. He shall dwell in the tabernacle of the Most High, and neither death nor judgment shall remove him from his place of privilege and blessedness. Let us (commit) ourselves to prayer and self-examination, for this Psalm is as fire for the gold, and as a furnace for silver. Can we endure its testing power?”

Am I careful to look out for the best interests of others through my speech, behavior and thoughts?

Do I evaluate the character of others by Bible principle and react accordingly for God’s glory?

Do people feel as though they would need more than my word to ensure that I fulfill a commitment made to them?

Am I exemplary in the way that I use the resources that God has given to me?

Every true Christian has been saved by grace alone, through faith alone in Christ alone for the glory of God alone. And yet, as the champions the Reformation would say, “The faith that saves is never alone.” It is always accompanied by repentance for sin and the outworkings of a grateful heart. How would you describe yourself as a Christian? How would others describe you as a Christian? It was written of Abel’s testimony that “through it he being dead still speaks.”⁸ May God give us the grace to live in such a way that the message of our lives is worth listening to for His glory!

1 | Cor.10:31-33 2 | Cor.13:5 3 | Isa.5:18-24 4 | Psa.119:63 5 | Matt.5:33-37 6 | Prov.18:17; Matt.25:37-40 7 | Deut.25:15; Prov.11:1; 20:10, 23 8 | Heb.11:4: