



# WELCOME TO BIBLE HOUSE OF GRACE

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## Psalm 15

(2019)

Bible House of Grace contains an easy to read New and Old Testament commentary full of spiritual treasures and pearls, complete with an insightful resource guide illuminating God's love and grace.



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Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man, as to such I neither claim perfect knowledge or perfect understanding.

## Psalm 15.

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### Topics.

- The character of the righteous person.
- You shall love your neighbour as yourself.
- Jesus famous Sermon on the Mount:

**FOR INFORMATION:** concerning people, places and the meaning of words see the title: "Map Locations and People of the Bible," and the title: "Bible Dictionary" on Website Menu.

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### INTRODUCTION

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Psalms are songs and prayers offered to God by the nation Israel, they consist of five books covering the range of human emotion, expressing praise, faith, victory, sorrow, despair, depression, frustration and the troubled heart of a mourner. They contrast the righteous with the wicked, and include the wisdom and the treasure of God's word. Psalms were written at the beginning of the 15th century BC and probably collected in their final form in the 3rd century.

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### BOOK ONE (PSALM 1-41)

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A Psalm of David.

### The Character of the Righteous Person.

- **Psalm 15:1-5:** O LORD, who shall sojourn in your tent? Who shall dwell on your holy hill? <sup>2</sup>He who walks blamelessly and does what is right and speaks truth in his heart; <sup>3</sup>who does not slander with his tongue and does no evil to his neighbour, nor takes up a reproach against his friend; <sup>4</sup>in whose eyes a vile person is despised, but who honours those who fear the LORD; who swears to his own hurt and does not change; <sup>5</sup>who does not put out his money at interest and does not take a bribe against the innocent. He who does these things shall never be moved.

Those who will dwell with the LORD will be those who:

- Walk blamelessly and do what is right.
- Do not slander or do evil to their neighbour.
- Despise a vile person, but they honour those that fear the LORD.
- Do not take up a reproach against their friend.
- Speak the truth in their heart.
- Swear to their-own hurt and do not change their mind.
- Will not lend their money at interest.
- Do not take a bribe against the innocent.

David concludes:

- Those who live to these principals shall never be moved.

The principle or underlying current of all these can be summed up in the following words:

- Treating others decently.

- Do no harm to another person.

Jesus summed these all up in the following command:

- You shall love your neighbour as yourself. (Mark 12:31).

Next to loving God with all our heart, mind and strength the command to love your neighbours as yourself is not only the greatest commandment in the entire Bible and under sun, the moon, the stars and all the heavenly hosts, but also the greatest commandment before God and the Lord Jesus Christ. To love your neighbour as yourself, (Matt. 22:39) means do not deliberately do harm to other humans. No sane person deliberately does things to inflict pain on themselves, loving others as you love yourself is not about feeling some warm and fuzzy emotion towards others, it is about not hurting others as you would not hurt yourself. James the brother of Jesus said:

- If you really fulfil the royal law according to the Scripture, "You shall love your neighbour as yourself," you are doing well. (James 2:8).

James calls Jesus command, "Love your neighbour as yourself," the royal law and says if we are keeping this one law we are doing well. The thing God hates the most is when we deliberately do harm to another person, physically, verbally, financially sexually, emotionally or spiritually and the thing God loves the most is when we do-good to others. It is interesting to notice that the major crime that God points out in Noah's time and one of the main reasons for the flood was because of all the violence in the land.

- Micah wrote: "What the LORD requires of mankind is to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with their God" (Micah 6:5-10).
- Isaiah says: "The LORD loves justice, hates robbery and wrong doing" (Isaiah 61:8).
- Jeremiah said: "Those who know God practise steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth, because it is in these things that God delights" (Jer. 9:24).

The great prophets Micah, Isaiah and Jeremiah clearly show the law is about doing-good to others and protecting them from harm and hurt. The spirit under-pinning the Ten Commandments, is love because each law protects another human from harm. Paul in his letter to the Romans wrote:

- Love does no wrong to a neighbour; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law. (Romans 13:10).

Paul shines a brilliant spotlight on the truth that the spirit underpinning the law is love, because the spirit of the law is to protect the innocent from all types of harm and hurt, whoever keeps the law will do no wrong to a neighbour (neighbour embraces all mankind not just those in God's Kingdom). Those who belong to Christ aim to keep the law not to get saved, but because it honours God and brings a good testimony to the name of Jesus and the Christian faith and because it is the right and loving thing to do. The faithful in Christ's global Kingdom not only understand that righteousness that leads to eternal life is a free gift of God that comes through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and cannot be earned by self-effort, but also know that from the love of God dwelling within their heart and displayed on the bloodstained cross of Calvary they are called to live a lifestyle that honours the King and Saviour they worship and follow and called to treat others with decency, respect and honest justice.

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## JESUS FAMOUS SERMON ON THE MOUNT

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The constant theme throughout Jesus famous Sermon on the Mount is doing what is right before God by seeking the way of peace in all situations. Jesus calls Christians to treat people fairly and with respect, dignity, decency grace compassion, kindness, mercy and to be quick to forgive. This means living a life that honours God and the Lord Jesus Christ is about doing right to those in the church and those outside of it. This is the reason the message Jesus spoke on the mountain is referred to as, "The Famous Sermon" because the principals if followed not only by Christians, but all humanity are the only way to peace (Matt 5). Based on the commandment, love your neighbour as yourself and the law it could be said that a wicked and evil person is one who deliberately and consciously denies the existence of God and deliberately does harm to other humans. For further information on Jesus Famous Sermon see: "Matthew 5" in, Commentary NT (ON WEBSITE MENU).

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*As the founder of Bible House of Grace, I would like to thank the many Christian scholars, commentators and theologians who have gone before me, and the many today, who have freely made available their works to enhance the knowledge of the Bible to all people worldwide. It is only with the help of these faithful writers that much of Bible House of Grace exists as it does today.*

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