

## Psalm 24: 3-6

### Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord?

**“Who may ascend the hill of the Lord? Who may stand in his holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to an idol or swear by what is false. He will receive blessing from the Lord and vindication from God his Savior. Such is the generation of those who seek him, who seek your face, O God.”**

**NOTE: When I was very young, my father was a lay-leader in our church. I will never forget that he preached a sermon on this scripture: “Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? Or who can stand in his holy place?” Considering the Holiness of God, indeed, who would dare to enter God’s presence? So, about 35 years later, when Dad was on a respirator and unconscious in the Critical Care Unit of the hospital, I was holding his hand, and I reminded him of that sermon that he preached so long ago. In fact, I preached it back to him, and I reminded him that he was ready to “ascend the hill of the Lord,” because his hands were clean and his heart was pure, cleansed by the Lord Jesus Himself! A few minutes later he opened his eyes and squeezed my hand. I was so surprised, I asked him, “Dad, do you want me to get Mom?” Wow! What a dumb question!! Because of the ventilator, he couldn’t answer me, but he nodded his head, “Yes!” I ran to the waiting room to get Mom.**

**To make this personal, as we approach the end of our own lives, will WE be able to “ascend the hill of the Lord”? If we do have**

**“clean hands and a pure heart,” we now know that our hands are clean and our hearts are pure, not because of our own good works, but because we were cleansed and purified when the Lord Jesus died for us at Calvary. See also [Ephesians 2: 9](#). “For it is by grace you have been saved through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.”**

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