

January 31, 2021

Ps. 24:3-4, “Who may ascend the hill of the LORD? Who may stand in His holy place? The one who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to what is falsehood and does not swear deceitfully.”

The Hebrew word for *holy place* is **kadeshov** which means *consecrated, dedicated, or the most holy place*. All through the Israelites’ formation as a nation, God had called His people to come to the Tabernacle and then ultimately the Temple. It was there that God’s presence was seen as a pillar of fire at night and a cloud in the day. The place where He stayed was called the Holy of Holies and no one could enter this place except once a year, when the High Priest would bring the sacrifice for the atonement of the sins of the people for that year. Even then, he entered with great trepidation, hoping that He would not die in God’s presence. Why? Because God’s place is Holy; because God is Holy. To enter in with sin would automatically bring punishment and death. The High Priest entered only because of the blood of the sacrificial lamb that was slain.

But now, because of the blood of the Lamb of God (Jesus), He invites all to come into His presence through the sacrifice that was made. The veil in the Temple was torn from top to bottom and now we can enter. What makes clean hands and a pure heart? Salvation through Jesus. We trust in nothing else but the blood of Jesus. He has done it all.

Dear LORD, thank You for the sacrifice. Thank You for forgiveness. Thank You for salvation. In Jesus Name, Amen