

## Psalm 16

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- Psalm 16 is a Messianic psalm; the test of a Messianic psalm being that it is quoted in the New Testament referring to Jesus.
- A “Michtam” of David. Some have speculated that it means “engraved in gold” or “secret treasure” - I think they both apply and I think you’ll see why.
- This “inscription” is used in Psalms 56-60, all of which, like this Psalm end on a happy or triumphant note.
- This Psalm is quoted by Peter in his Pentecost sermon and by Paul in Antioch of Pisidia.
- This Psalm might have been written shortly after God gave His promise to David concerning his offspring and his house, that the Messiah would come from David’s lineage. (**2 Samuel 7:18-29**)
- We look at V’s: 10-11 as being obviously Messianic because it’ quoted by Peter and Paul, but this whole Psalm can easily be applied to our Lord Jesus.

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V: 1 This prayer is a petition and a statement of faith at the same time.

- Preserve me, keep me, protect me - because I have trusted in you, you’ve promised to do so and I believe you. We all need Him to preserve and keep us.

In the garden of Gethsemane, Jesus:

**Luke 22:44** “And being in an agony He prayed more earnestly: and His sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground.”

V: 2 “*Oh my soul...*” “Self... you have said unto the Lord” speaking in third person...

“*Thou art my Lord: my goodness extendeth not to thee...*” Poor translation: should read something like “my goodness or righteousness is of Thee.”

NKJV “My goodness is nothing apart from you.”

NASB “I have no goodness besides you.”

NIV “Apart from you I have no good thing.”

**Romans 7:18** “For I know that in me, that is in my flesh, dwelleth no good thing:..”

Our righteousness comes from God:

**2 Corinthians 5:21** “For He hath made Him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him.”

- We have no goodness apart from our Lord:

Jesus prayed:

**John 5:30** “I can of mine own self do nothing:...”

- Our greatest privilege, our greatest blessing in life is that of knowing Him, and having fellowship with Him!

V: 3 Amplified: “As for the godly (the saints) who are in the land, they are the excellent, the noble, and the glorious, in whom is all my delight.”

In Psalm 15 David described those who would abide in God's presence:

**Psalm 15:4** “... he that honoureth them that fear the Lord.”

- David delights in the saints, the Godly, the believers, as we should.

Jesus delights in us as well, and suffered that we might have fellowship with Him:

**Hebrews 12:2** “... who for the joy that was set before Him (saints) endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.”

V: 4 Turning from the righteous to the wicked: those that worship false gods will bring sorrow and pain upon themselves.

Later King Asa was warned of the Lord:

**2 Chronicles 15:2** “... the Lord is with you, while ye be with Him; and if ye seek Him, He will be found of you; but if ye forsake Him, He will forsake you.”

- Any “god” besides the True and Living God is a false god.
- David is declaring that he won't seek after any other God, he will not make offerings to any other god, he won't even speak their names!

**Exodus 23:13** “And in all things that I have said unto you be circumspect: and make no mention of the name of other gods, neither let it be heard out of thy mouth.”

- David, like Joshua has certainly made his choice.

**Joshua 24:15** “And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood / river, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.”

V: 5 The Lord is my inheritance, He is my Prize! Us too! Jesus is the prize, heaven is just where He lives.

**Genesis 15:1** “After these things the word of the Lord came unto Abram in a vision, saying, fear not, Abram: I am thy shield, and thy exceeding great reward.”

- All the tribes except the tribe of Levi had an inheritance in the land. Because they served the Lord in the sanctuary and ate of the holy sacrifices, the Levites had the Lord as their special inheritance. David saw himself in that privileged place of service.
- He is our overflowing cup of blessing; our cup is fellowship with Him!
- There is a trade off here, Jesus had to take His cup, so that we could have ours...

**2 Corinthians 5:21** “For He hath made Him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him.”

We read as Jesus prayed:

**Luke 22:42** “... Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup (cross / separation) from Me: nevertheless not My will, but thine, be done.”

- The cup that Jesus had to partake of, the suffering was that for the first time ever, He would be separated from the Father, who would turn away from Him as He became sin for us.

V: 6 Lines? Like as when they received the inheritance of the land when it was divided up after the conquest of Canaan. The borders, the boundaries, or property lines. David is saying, "I scored!"

- A heritage is an inheritance, what we've received from others, and what we pass on to others as well.
- David may have been thinking about the Patriarchs when he wrote this. He could look to his father Jesse, and to his grandfather Boaz, a godly man described in the book of Ruth.
- What a tremendous blessing for those who've grown up in Christian homes, who's parents and grandparents have been praying for them, guiding them, instructing them in the things of the Lord.
- I didn't have a Godly heritage growing up, I am still praying for my dad and uncles to get saved. But I am still blessed with a Godly heritage, because I look to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, because I am a spiritual descendant.

**Galatians 3:6-7** “<sup>6</sup>Even as Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness. <sup>7</sup>Know ye therefore that they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham.”

- I look to Paul, and Pastor Chuck, and to Doug Warwick and many other brothers in the faith who have ministered to me.

I look to my Lord Jesus; who said:

**Matthew 5:9** “Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.”

**Romans 5:1** “Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

- As believers we have a Godly heritage through our Lord Jesus! I’m seeking that Godly heritage for my kinds and for my grandkids, I want to pass it on.

V: 7-9 There are those times when we’re facing decisions about some thing. We go to bed not sure what to do, un-decided - but then as our minds are quieted, we pray, and the Lord speaks, we wake up knowing what to do.

Jesus spent many an evening in prayer, in communion with His Father:

**Luke 6:12** “And it came to pass in those days, that He went out into a mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God.”

- <sup>8</sup>Having set the Lord always before him; always aware and conscious of the presence of the Lord. Knowing the Lord is with me gives me a confidence, an assurance, because of that I will not be moved.

Not being moved is a recurring theme through the Psalms being spoken 7 x's:

**Psalms 62:6** “He only is my rock and my salvation: He is my defence; I shall not be moved.”

- <sup>9</sup>Because of that my heart is glad, I rejoice in Him, and I can be at rest, because my hope is in him. ("I'm cool")

V: 10-11 David now speaks a word of prophecy regarding the Messiah to come. The first part of this has no application to David, then in verse 11 it has application for David and all of us.

- The first part of this is pure prophecy, it is specifically about Jesus! In general there is an application to David and to us for that matter as believers, but David is in the Spirit describing the Messiah to come.
- In **Acts 2** it is Pentecost and Peter is preaching, addressing to the crowd explaining what has just happened and what they are seeing. He declares that the disciples are not drunk with wine, but are overflowing with the Spirit of God, which is a fulfillment of what the prophet Joel had predicted.

**Joel 2:28-29** “<sup>28</sup>And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions. <sup>29</sup>And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out My Spirit. <sup>30</sup>And I will show wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke. <sup>31</sup>The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the Lord come. <sup>32</sup>And it shall come to pass, that whoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be delivered: for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the Lord hath said, and in the remnant whom the Lord shall call.”

- Peter tells them that this is what they are seeing, the fulfillment of Joel’s prophecy. Part of that prophecy is that “whoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved”
- That deliverance, the Savior is come to Zion, to Jerusalem, speaking of Jesus.
- Peter declares that David was speaking a prophesy, but not about himself. David is dead and buried, he saw "corruption" and you can see his tomb today (then & today) Peter further declares that both Joel and David were talking about Jesus.
- Peter uses **Psalm 16:10-11** as a proof text in the midst of his Pentecost sermon.

**Acts 2:29-32** “<sup>29</sup>Men and brethren, let me freely speak unto you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his sepulchre is with us unto this day. <sup>30</sup>Therefore being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him, that of the fruit of his loins, according to the flesh, he would raise up Christ to sit on his throne; <sup>31</sup>He seeing this before spake of the resurrection of Christ, that his soul was not left in hell, neither his flesh did see corruption. <sup>32</sup>This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses.”

- So David is prophesying here of the resurrection of Jesus from the dead, which Jesus had in fact preached about as well.

*“Thou wilt shew me the path of life...”*

- This is the promise, God has promised to show us the path of life - and He did!

Jesus said:

**John 14:6** “I am the way, the truth, and the life, no man cometh unto the Father but by Me.”

- Jesus is the path, the path to eternal life, it’s through Him!

*“... In thy presence is fullness of joy...”* It just doesn’t get any better!

- We can't imagine the joy that we will experience when at last we stand face to face before our Lord.

**1 Corinthians 2:9-10** “<sup>9</sup>But as it is written, eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him. <sup>10</sup>But God hath revealed them unto us by His Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.”

As Nehemiah was celebrating the Word of God: they stood, they read distinctly, they gave the meaning...

**Nehemiah 8:10** “... for the joy of the Lord is your strength.”

**John 15:11** “These things have I spoken unto you, that My joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full.”

**1 John 1:4** “And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full.”

Quoting David, and applying it, Peter declared:

**Acts 2:28** “Thou hast made known to me the ways of life; thou shalt make me full of joy with thy countenance.”

**1 Peter 1:8** “Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory.”

- All at the revelation of God, through His Word to each of us.

“... *at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore.*”

Jesus said:

**Matthew 25:34** “Then shall the King say unto them on His right hand, come, ye blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.

- Can't you hardly wait to be with Him? I want to dwell in His presence, I want to see His face, to hear His voice for evermore!

**Psalm 27:4** "One thing have I desired of the Lord, and that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to enquire in His temple."

- The privileges of being a child of God!
- Concerning Jesus, Verse 10 speaks of His resurrection, verse 11 speaks of His ascension - and eventually of ours!