

Psalm 16

The Resurrection of Jesus

Text: Psalm 16

Introduction:

1. God had promised that the seed of woman would crush the head of the serpent and the enemy of man would be defeated (Genesis 3:15).
2. He showed that this victory would include blessedness for all through the seed of Abraham (Genesis 12:1-3).
3. This Victor would be a mediator (Job 19:23-27), a ruler (Genesis 49:10), a star (Numbers 24:17), a prophet (Deuteronomy 18:15-19), a priest (1 Samuel 2:35), and a king (1 Samuel 2:10) - ruling from the throne of David (1 Chronicles 17:11-14).
4. During the time of David, the "sweet psalmist of Israel" (2 Samuel 23:1) recorded many prophecies of Jesus in the Psalms.
5. Psalm 16 reveals details of the resurrection of the Messiah...

I. THE SETTING OF THE PSALM

- A. The introduction to this psalm states that it was written by David.
- B. It is called a "Michtam" which is usually thought to mean a "golden poem."
 1. In the Geneva Bible it is described as "a certain tune" - thus, having to do with the musical character of the psalm.
 2. In the Septuagint it is rendered as "tablet inscription" - indicating a psalm so valuable that it should be engraved in stone or gold.
 3. Others think it should be understood as "secret" - having to do with the depths of knowledge of God in the life of His faithful (cf. Psalm 25:14).
- C. The theme of the psalm is: Refuge in God.

II. THE STUDY OF THE PSALM (PSALM 16:1-11)

- A. In suffering, trial, and difficulty, one can trust in God as a refuge.
 1. The word for "preserve" means, "To guard, keep, protect, or hedge about."
 2. The second phrase of verse one literally states, "For to thee I flee for refuge."
 3. "For in thee do I take refuge" (ASV). "For in You I have found shelter" (TLV).
- B. This statement is followed by several reasons for trusting in God for refuge.
 1. There was a commitment to God - "Thou art my Lord."
 2. There was no goodness without God.
 - a. The word for 'good' can refer to moral excellence.
 - b. It can also be used for that which is pleasant, agreeable, or appropriate.
 - c. "I have no good beyond thee" (ASV).
 - d. "I have no good apart from you" (ESV).
 - e. "My goodness is nothing apart from you" (LITV).
 3. There was delight found in fellowship with the excellent saints of God.
 4. There was sorrow in forsaking God and worshipping idols.
 - a. Note that the drink offering was blood.
 - b. This is clearly pagan idolatry and a grave insight into its nature.
 5. There was a greater inheritance with the Lord - better than land or food.

Prophecy of Jesus

6. There was relationship with God in the boundary lines of his heritage.
- C. For all of these reasons, David would not be moved away from his fellowship with God.
 1. He would bless the Lord for the revelation of Truth – allowing his conscience to guide him during the night (cf. 2 Peter 1:3).
 2. He had chosen to keep the Lord first in his heart and life; therefore, he would not be shaken or moved.
 3. This provided hope in death and the assurance of life beyond the grave.
 - D. Thus, he would find great blessings from the Lord.
 1. He would be shown the proper way to live – the path of life.
 2. He would find himself in the divine presence and in the fullness of joy.
 3. He would live at God's right hand and enjoy eternal pleasures.
- III. THE SAVIOR IN THE PSALM (PSALM 16:8-11)
- A. While this psalm was written by David and had meaning for his life, it is also clearly a prophecy of the Messiah.
 - B. When David wrote in the first person in verses 8-10, by inspiration he was speaking for Jesus (whether or not he understood it at the time).
 - C. Peter quoted this passage on the Day of Pentecost and applied it to the resurrection of Jesus (Acts 2:25-33).
 - D. Paul made the same application of this passage when he spoke in the synagogue of Antioch (Acts 13:29-39).
 1. "Hell" is the word *Sheol* and refers to the unseen dwelling-place of the dead (Greek, *Hades*).
 2. Thus, Jesus' soul would not be left in the Hadean realm.
 3. Nor would He be given over to the pit – conquered by death or Hell.
 4. His soul would be reunited with His body before it could be corrupted or destroyed in the grave.
 - E. This passage is also likely under consideration in 1 Corinthians 15:4 for it is the only Old Testament Scripture that specifically spoke of the resurrection of Jesus.

Conclusion: This detailed prophecy demonstrates the foreknowledge of God and the inspiration of the Bible.