

April 19, 2020 Psalm 16 “The Lord is My Refuge”

We will look at the first 5 verses of this chapter today and the final 6 verses next week, Lord willing. This Psalm is full of instruction and encouragement. However, to benefit from it we must spend time thinking about it and meditating on it. By immersing yourself in Bible truth, you change your character. By spending time on God’s word, especially passages like this one, you get it into your system.

The sermon is organized verse by verse.

Point 1 - v. 1 *Keep me safe, my God, for in you I take refuge.*

Be strong and confident. God is taking care of you, even now in the midst of this coronavirus pandemic and economic shutdown.

Point 2 - v. 2 *I say to the Lord, “You are my Lord; apart from you I have no good thing.”* Realize that you are dependent on him. Inside of each of us there is a God shaped vacuum (Blaise Pascal) that people try to fill with other things, pleasure, power, people, pride, but the real purpose of this longing is to move us toward God.

Point 3 - Vv 3 & 4 *I say of the holy people who are in the land, “They are the noble ones in whom is all my delight.” Those who run after other gods will suffer more and more. I will not pour out libations of blood to such gods or take up their names on my lips.*

There are two types of people in the world, those who follow God and those who run after other gods. When a person puts anything before God in his life, that thing becomes a god to him. People can worship money, power, sex, popularity, social media, and fame. When they do this, they are giving up what is truly good for what is temporary and shallow. Jesus said, “And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul?” Mark 8:36.

Point 4 - v. 5 *Lord, you alone are my portion and my cup; you make my lot secure.* God delights in those who walk with him, so don’t get sidetracked.

Point 5 - v. 6 *The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places: surely I have a delightful inheritance.* A good life rule is, “Bloom where you are planted.” The Bible tells us that how we live this life now determines what sort of reward we will have then. And indeed it is a delightful inheritance.

Enjoy the good things about where you are and remember you have a delightful eternal inheritance.