

RELATED SCRIPTURES

Acts 2:22–35 | John 17:6–26 | 1 Corinthians 15:20–22

STUDY FOR SERMON FROM 6.14.26

SUMMARY

In Psalm 16, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, David gives us a view of Christ's sufferings and his victory over the grave, centuries before these events occurred in time-space history. David's opening petition, "Preserve me, O God, for in you I take refuge" (v. 1), shows us David's posture of humility and utter dependence upon the Lord.

The psalmist confesses that the Lord is his "portion and cup" and his "beautiful inheritance" (vs. 5–6), language that finds its ultimate fulfillment in union with Christ. David goes on to express his delight in "the excellent ones, in whom is all my delight" (v. 3), affirming the Lord's covenantal, watchful care over all believers—while firmly rejecting the foolishness of those who pursue idols (v. 4).

The wisdom of the Lord keeps David's heart glad and secure, even in trial (vs. 7–9). He then, with prophetic insight, proclaims, "You will not abandon my soul to Sheol, or let your holy one see corruption" (vs. 10–11). The apostle Peter, preaching at Pentecost (Acts 2:22–35), tells us this utterance of David was a prophecy of the Lord Jesus Christ. Though crucified and buried, Christ—the sinless and righteous one—was not abandoned to decay but raised victorious, securing the resurrection of all who are united to him by faith.

Psalm 16 gives assurance that because Christ is our inheritance, we will not be abandoned to death either. Instead, we are shown "the path of life" and granted the privilege of entering "the fullness of joy" in God's presence forevermore (v. 11).

GROUP QUESTIONS

Share something that surprises, encourages, or troubles you from the sermon or your direct reading of Psalm 16.

How does the Lord preserve his people, both in the short term and the long term? How has he preserved you, specifically, and has he preserved his Church over the ages?

Why was it impossible for Christ to remain in the grave? What insights does Psalm 16 give us about the impossibility of Christ remaining in the grave? What assurances does this provide his people?

If there's one thing Jesus would want you to walk away believing and receiving as a result of this portion of Scripture, what is that thing?

CLOSE IN PRAYER

As you pray, be sure to include today's themes in what you bring before God.