

## Easter Sunday 2026 - Psalm 16

**We smile, pause, vulnerable, real, Spirit-led - kids... lost... weak... hurting...**

**Welcome.** Every Sunday, or first time in years. glad you're here. Millions. Spoiler: Jesus. He is risen

God has called some today. Deep down, all know not settled. Eternity in hearts. Need Jesus. **PRAY**.  
Human experience: kids shaking (nightmare/storm), adults fretting (money, health, drama) - where run?

- Some of you are tired of running... we all are...

David wrote a **psalm 16** about this. 3000 yrs ago. **Christ in the Psalms**. Raw... real... refuge!

- David **points to Jesus and speaks of Easter**. **ACTS** (God, man, cross, death, easter deets) -

**Three parts** - Storm shelter, satisfied heart, living hope (protection, contentment, salvation)

- Not every verse. ESV, will be on screen. (may not seem typical Easter at first...)
- **ABUNDANT & ETERNAL LIFE!** **Only in Jesus**: real joy, real security, and real life with God

### **A Storm Shelter** (verses 1-4)

**Problem** = We are all "runners." universal cry... a place to feel safe, feel happy, that won't let us down.

**Everyone runs to something** **BLAST Bored. Lonely. Angry. Stressed. Tired.** Looking for **REFUGE**

- And sometimes, life just hits you...
- **Surfing / Hockey** - person/puck/boards - brace for impact... flex; shut eyes... that impulse is one of the most honest things about us - fender bender/roller coaster... same thing... When life feels like it's about to hit us, **we reach for something**: A person. A substance (food/drink/drug).
- David runs to God...

Vv. 1-2 - "Preserve [watch over] me, O God, for in you I take refuge. I say to the Lord, 'You are my Lord; I have no good apart from you.'"

- David watched (shepherded) over his sheep; asking God to watch over him.
- **Refuge = protection** - storm cellar during a tornado. Home when it's freezing out.
  - From: the devil, the world, and even myself... (chirping at us...)
- David's refuge = **You are my Lord**, you're it. My strength and shield.
- **Goliath/Saul/warrior/king** - **manly!** Last option for weak sissies, take care myself. Self pride.
- If David did, then how much more you and I...? I need God to be **my refuge!** (**humility**)
- **I have no good apart from you** - this is true **theologically and practically...** (layman's terms)
- **Theologically** = We are **NOT good enough for salvation!** the masses think... (no, not one)
- **Practically** = Satan tempts us to think we can **find something good and satisfying that is not from God**. ...Though we might not call it a "god" that's what it is... a functional refuge...

V. 4 - "The sorrows of those who run after another god shall multiply..."

- **Fun for a moment** - binge watching/binge eating... until the next day... (feel like trash...)
- **People in this room** who have been reaching for something, whatever it is, it keeps letting you down - some have **multiplied sorrows** in the past, some are in them now...
- **Ideologies** - individualism, gender, political, consumerism... (all leave you... **sorrowful**)
  - Christians in trouble with Rome - as long as you bowed to Caesar - would he save?
  - My life playing in a band, trying both, identity crisis. refuge often starts with saying **NO**

- Life lived for God is not easy, but lived to another god is full of **multiplied sorrow**...

**Easter reminds us** that there is **a better place to run!** - Truth, life, freedom, and satisfaction...

### **A Satisfied Heart** (verses 5-8)

**Problem continues** = we're not satisfied, social media likes/followers. Doom scrolling, never landing.

- **Wealthy man:** how much is enough? Just a little bit more. We live in "just a little bit more" world.
- Job never pays enough, vacations wear out, family annoys, toys break, church is not big enough, substances no longer have the kick... boredom, restlessness, constant need for entertainment, even ministry.... (guilty) - the rat race is exhausting...
  - **Law of diminishing returns**... First bite of steak... **Big Texan example from Amarillo!**
- The answer...?

Vv. 5-6 - "The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot... indeed, I have a beautiful inheritance."

- **"Portion + cup" = satisfaction and contentment!**
  - Picture your favorite meal... **Mama Mac's chicken N dumplings** - the best!
  - David is announcing **the Lord as His main source of fulfillment**. Not side dish.
- **The Lord is my portion**. Not just part of my life - He is my life.
- **A beautiful inheritance**. At rest. Shalom. Purpose. Deep satisfaction. Sufficient. Enough!
- The greatest blessing God can give us **is himself**. - this reality doesn't happen by accident...

V. 8 - "I have set the Lord always [continually] before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken."

- **I have set the LORD always before me** - speaks of **decision** made to **put God first in his life**
  - **An ongoing decision**. How many of you? That's your heart? Put Him/Keep Him first?
  - **There is a cost**. pleasures, popularity, anonymity, relationships, goals, career, priorities
  - I believe God is **calling some of you here** to make that decision, **TODAY...**
- **I shall not be shaken** = world wants to shake you, move you and confuse you... (anxieties)
- But **the Lord invites you to His table** to fill your cup with a **beautiful lot and inheritance**.

### **A Living Hope** (verses 9-11)

Finally we get to **Easter**. (Is this guy going to talk about the resurrection?). Here's **the Easter anchor!**

**The problem gets worse** = not just practical or merely satisfactory, **but death/eternity of our souls...**

V. 10 - "You will not abandon my soul... nor let your Holy One see corruption."

- **Boom. Easter!** Not David... Listen up if you care about the eternity of your soul...
- **Death has been defeated** by the **HOLY ONE**. **Substitutionary atonement**. (layman's)
  - **No other name...**
- **GOSPEL:** Creation, separation. Incarnation. Perfection. Crucifixion. Burial. Resurrection!

1,000 years after David wrote this psalm, **an impulsive fisherman named Peter**... (post resurrection)

- **Prophecy (Bible amazing!),** also **WORLD CHANGING**, even our calendars.. (birth) - no other!

Acts 2:29-31, NLT - "Dear brothers, think about this! You can be sure that the patriarch David wasn't referring to himself, for he died and was buried, and his tomb is still here among us... **David was looking into the future and speaking of the Messiah's resurrection.**"

- **David did not write about himself.** visit his grave (I have). Same w/ prophets / presidents
- **Jesus is alive! 3,000 saved.** Paul too. **Same message for 2,000 years.** Only so long left.

V. 9 - "My heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices; **my flesh [body] also dwells secure [in hope]...**"

- **Gladness, glory and living hope.** Not temporary satisfaction, wishful thinning, but **living hope!**
- **My flesh [body] also dwells secure** - freedom & life has been granted **Christ i= firstfruits!**
- 1 Peter 1:3-5, ESV - "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to **be born again** to a living hope **through the resurrection of Jesus Christ** from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, **kept in heaven for you,** who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time."
  - **Death is just a doorway...** Oh death, where is your sting? It is swallowed up in victory!
- **Our final verse...**

V. 11 - "You make known to me the path of life; **in your presence there is fullness of joy;** at your right hand are pleasures forevermore." **(keep this verse on screen during entire altar call)**

- **Path of life** - GPS re-route to **where you need to be!** **Two roads: life/death (change roads!)**
  - It's not just a destination, it's **a path to walk on.** **Followers of the "way"** ...some of you came in here feeling stuck. No way forward. Trying to navigate; life keeps dead-ending...
  - The resurrection of Jesus doesn't just offer you heaven. **It offers you a path today**
- **Fullness of joy** - **Here and now,** in this life - **Life in the fullest** - Purpose. Fulfillment. JOY
- **Pleasures forevermore** - **In the heavenly life to come...** **Eternal life! Everlasting glory!**
  - (na'im - lovely, delightful, pleasant, sweet soundings) **Eternally...** **Can't imagine!**
  - Anything we go through is **not worthy compared to the glories** that await us.

(worship team to come up...)

**Closing:** Psalm 16 isn't just a poem, it's **a promise!** And, **Jesus is the fulfillment!**

- **Decision time.** By grace through faith.
  - Not too good, not too bad.
  - Not too young, not too old.
  - Not too rich, not too poor
  - Everyone, anyone, whosoever (every tribe and tongue)
  - Rev. 22 (final chapter in the bible) = (Thirsty? Come and drink the water of life freely!)
- **Sin has been paid** for, **death has been defeated.** Why would you reject the gift? Or run away?
- "The wages of sin is death, but the GIFT OF GOD IS ETERNAL LIFE in Christ Jesus our Lord"
- We've all chased "gods" - we've all messed up. **I've done** what I am asking you to do today.
- **I'll take the first step and meet you down there (don't clean up first)** no one but you decides.
- **Repent. believe. receive. Pray.** **give you a Bible w/ some resources** to help you grow!

**Altar Call...**

**PRAY**