Psalm 16

Jesus

A Michtam of David.

Pleasant Place At Jesus Side

1 Preserve me, O God, for in You I put my trust. 2 O my soul, you have said to the Lord, "You are my Lord, My goodness is nothing apart from You." 3 As for the saints who are on the earth, "They are the excellent ones, in whom is all my delight." 4 Their sorrows shall be multiplied who hasten after another god; Their drink offerings of blood I will not offer, Nor take up their names on my lips. 5 O Lord, You are the portion of my inheritance and my cup; You maintain my lot. 6 The lines have fallen to me in pleasant places; Yes, I have a good inheritance. 7 I will bless the Lord who has given me counsel; My heart also instructs me in the night seasons. 8 I have set the Lord always before me; Because He is at my right hand I shall not be moved. 9 Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoices; My flesh also will rest in hope. 10 For You will not leave my soul in Sheol, Nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption. 11 You will show me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy; At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

David Michtam [Prayer] I'm trusting in You alone. Not me...my goodness

Isaiah 64:6 ...we are all like an unclean thing, And all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags

• Only Good in us is God. Only Life in us is God

Romans 7:18 ... in me (that is, in my flesh) **nothing good dwells**...24 O wretched man that I am! **Who will deliver me** from this body of death? 25 **I thank God**—through Jesus Christ our Lord!

Romans 8:11...if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also **give life** to your mortal bodies **through His Spirit** who dwells in you.

Pleasant Places: 1. Giving Glory to God 2. Loving His Saints...

They are the excellent ones in whom is all my delight

1 John 3:14 We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love the brethren. **He who does not love his brother abides in death.**

1 John 4:20 If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar...

John 13:35 By this all will know...you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.

• Love for one another: Sign of Saving Faith

You are My portion, Lord. My taste of Heaven on Earth

• I will send My Helper: David had a taste, we have more...

1 Corinthians 2:9 ... it is written: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him." 10 **But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit**. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. [Indwelling Holy Spirit]

Ephesians 1:13 In [Jesus] you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, 14 who is the **guarantee [down payment]** of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.

Romans 8:23 [We...] have the **firstfruits of the Spirit**, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, **eagerly waiting** for the adoption, the redemption of our body.

2 Corinthians 5:2 [Taste makes us want more] ... in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed with our habitation which is from heaven...

• Pleasant Place: Relishing in Spirit of God waiting for more...

You maintain my lot...Lines fallen in Pleasant Places

Good Inheritance/Wise Counsel/Personal Instruction in times of darkness

I have set the Lord always before me Because He is at my right hand...I shall not be moved

- **Blessing of Stability** in an unstable world?
 - 1. Spirit Celebrating
 - 2. Soul Rejoicing
 - 3. Body Resting in Hope of the Resurrection vv9-11

Prophet David

Holy One will not see corruption...Thus I will not end in corruption/decay

Acts 13:36 [David saw corruption] David, after he had served his own generation by the will of God, fell asleep, was buried with his fathers, and **saw corruption...**

Acts 2:31 [David] ... spoke concerning the resurrection of the Christ, that His soul was not left in Hades, nor did His flesh see corruption. 32 This Jesus God has raised up...

David: You will not leave me in the grave because Jesus will rise from the grave You will show me the path of life

All paths do lead to God but only one leads to **God and heaven**. All paths do not lead to Eternal Life as a matter of fact no paths lead to Eternal life except One and that is the way of the cross i.e., Salvation by Grace Alone...though Faith Alone...in **Christ Alone** [NJC]

John 14:2b... I go to prepare a place for you. 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also. 4 And where I go you know, and the way you know." 5 Thomas said to Him, "Lord, we do not know where You are going, and how can we know the way?" 6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

Matthew 7:14 ...narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.

- Pride broadens the road to temporal contentment and eternal hell
- David found His joy now and forever in Christ alone...

In Your presence is fullness of joy

At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Psalm 16 A Pleasant Place at Jesus Side

Psalm 17

Jesus

A Prayer of David.

Confidence in "This Ain't It"

1 Hear a just cause, O Lord, Attend to my cry; Give ear to my prayer which is not from deceitful lips. 2 Let my vindication come from Your presence; Let Your eyes look on the things that are upright. 3 You have tested my heart; You have visited me in the night; You have tried me and have found nothing; I have purposed that my mouth shall not transgress. 4 Concerning the works of men, By the word of Your lips, I have kept away from the paths of the destroyer. 5 Uphold my steps in Your paths, That my footsteps may not slip. 6 I have called upon You, for You will hear me, O God; Incline Your ear to me, and hear my speech. 7 Show Your **marvelous lovingkindness** by Your right hand, O You who save those who trust in You From those who rise up against them. 8 Keep me as the **apple of Your eye**; Hide me under the shadow of Your wings, 9 From the wicked who oppress me, From my deadly enemies who surround me. 10 They have closed up their fat hearts; With their mouths they speak proudly. 11 They have now surrounded us in our steps; They have set their eyes, crouching down to the earth, 12 As a **lion is eager** to tear his prey, And like a young lion lurking in secret places. 13 Arise, O Lord, Confront him, cast him down; Deliver my life from the wicked with Your sword, 14 With Your hand from men, O Lord, From men of the world who have their portion in this life, And whose belly You fill with Your hidden treasure. They are satisfied with children, And leave the rest of their possession for their babes. 15 As for me, I will see Your face in righteousness; I shall be satisfied when I awake in Your likeness.

Keep me as the Apple of Your Eye

• **Pupil:** Part you seek to protect more than most

Surrounded by Lions eager to Tear

- Dropped into Spiritual Vietnam/Hamburger Hill enemy territory
 - 1. Ruler of this world John 12

- 2. **god** of this age 2 Cor 4
- 3. **Prince** power of air Eph 2

Matthew 10:16 ... I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves. Therefore be wise as serpents and harmless as doves. [How many wolves?]

- 4. Whole world in sway devil 1 John 5
- World: Cosmos. Arrangement/Government

Why does it have to be this way? Satan took title deed of earth from Adam/Eve and legally ruled the world until Jesus resurrection now he [Satan] is a usurper. We wait for the true rightful Sheriff to come back to town and this town ain't big enough for both Jesus and the devil. [NJC]

Delivered Me from the wicked with the Sword

• **Enemy Territory:** Sheep/Dove vs Lions/Wolves. Lions/Wolves don't have a chance against Word

Men of the world/Earth dwellers have their only portion of God here...

Their sensual appetite gets the gain which it craved for. God gives to these swine the husks which they hunger for. A generous man does not deny dogs their bones; and our generous God gives even his enemies enough to fill them, if they were not so unreasonable as never to be content. [Spurgeon] [Desires all to be saved 1 Tim 2:4]

• How must we live? Win? Vengeance belongs to the Lord who is longsuffering

Matthew 5:44b... love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you, 45 that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for **He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good**, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. 46 For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors do the same?

- God will deal w/those who do not repent at His kindness
- For David and us...

I will see Your face/Awake in Your likeness Eternal Perspective We will be going Home

• **v7 Marvelous Kindness:** heb. *paw-law'* separated for purpose of showing kindness

When all ends... It will be just the beginning of forever for those who rise with Christ [NJC]

Psalm 17 Confidence in this Ain't it

Psalm 18 C.f. 2 Sam 22

Jesus

To the Chief Musician. A **Psalm of David** the servant of the Lord, who spoke to the Lord the words of this song on the day that the Lord delivered him from the hand of all his enemies and from the hand of Saul. And he said:

God of Red Sea Miracles

1 I will love You, O Lord, my strength. 2 The Lord is **my rock** and **my fortress** and my deliverer; My God, my strength, in whom I will trust; My shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold. 3 I will call upon the Lord, who is **worthy to be praised**; So shall I be saved from my enemies. 4 The pangs of death surrounded me, And the floods of ungodliness made me afraid. 5 The sorrows of Sheol surrounded me; The snares of death confronted me. 6 In my distress I called upon the Lord, And cried out to my God; He heard my voice from His temple, And my cry came before Him, even to His ears. 7 Then the earth shook and trembled; The foundations of the hills also quaked and were shaken, Because He was angry. 8 Smoke went up from His nostrils, And devouring fire from His mouth; Coals were kindled by it. 9 He bowed the heavens also, and came down With darkness under His feet. 10 And He rode upon a cherub, and flew; He flew upon the wings of the wind. 11 He made darkness His secret place; His canopy around Him was dark waters And thick clouds of the skies. 12 From the brightness before Him, His thick clouds passed with hailstones and coals of fire, 13 The Lord thundered from heaven, And the Most High uttered His voice, Hailstones and coals of fire. 14 He sent out His arrows and scattered the foe, Lightnings in abundance, and He vanguished them. 15 Then the channels of the sea were seen, The foundations of the world were uncovered At Your rebuke, O Lord, At the blast of the breath of Your nostrils. 16 He sent from above, He took me; He drew me out of many waters. 17 He delivered me from my strong enemy, From those who hated me, For they were too strong for me. 18 They confronted me in the day of my calamity, But the Lord was my support. 19 He also brought me out into a broad place; He delivered me because He **delighted in me.** 20 The Lord rewarded me according to my righteousness; According to the cleanness of my hands He has recompensed me. 21 For I have kept the ways of the Lord, And have not wickedly departed from my God. 22 For all His judgments were before me, And I did not put away His statutes from me. 23 I was also blameless before Him, And I kept myself from my iniquity. 24 Therefore the Lord has recompensed me according to my righteousness, According to the cleanness of my hands in His sight. 25 With the merciful You will show Yourself merciful; With a blameless man You will show Yourself **blameless**; 26 With the **pure** You will show Yourself **pure**; And with the **devious** You will show Yourself **shrewd**. 27 For You will save the humble people, But will bring down haughty looks. 28 For You will light my lamp; The Lord my God will enlighten my darkness. 29 For by You I can run against a troop, By my God I can leap over a wall. 30 As for God, His way is perfect; The word of the Lord is proven; He is a shield to all who trust in Him. 31 For who is God, except the Lord? And who is a rock, except our God? 32 It is God who arms me with strength, And makes my way perfect. 33 He makes my feet like the feet of deer, And sets me on my high places. 34 He teaches my hands to make war, So that my arms can bend a bow of bronze. 35 You have also given me the shield of Your salvation; Your right hand has

held me up, Your **gentleness has made me great**. 36 You enlarged my path under me, So my feet did not slip. 37 I have pursued my enemies and overtaken them; Neither did I turn back again till they were destroyed. 38 I have wounded them, So that they could not rise; They have fallen under my feet. 39 For You have armed me with strength for the battle; You have subdued under me those who rose up against me. 40 You have also given me the necks of my enemies, So that I destroyed those who hated me. 41 They cried out, but there was none to save; Even to the Lord, but He did not answer them. 42 Then I beat them as fine as the dust before the wind; I cast them out like dirt in the streets. 43 You have delivered me from the strivings of the people; You have made me the head of the nations; A people I have not known shall serve me. 44 As soon as they hear of me they obey me; The foreigners submit to me. 45 The foreigners fade away, And come frightened from their hideouts. 46 The Lord lives! **Blessed be my Rock**! Let the God of my salvation be exalted. 47 It is God who avenges me, And subdues the peoples under me; 48 He delivers me from my enemies. You also lift me up above those who rise against me; You have delivered me from the violent man. 49 Therefore I will give thanks to You, O Lord, among the Gentiles, And sing praises to Your name. 50 Great deliverance He gives to His king, And shows mercy to His anointed, To David and his descendants forevermore.

• David running from Saul 10+ years. All over now. Saul is dead. David is King

What we thought would never end has now ended...for good My Rock/My Fortress/ My Deliverer/My God/My Strength/My Shield

- Worthy to be Praised and This is Why...
 - 1. Enemy caused fear/sorrow set traps for me for over a decade
 - 2. I was more dead than alive/Death was in my face night/day
 - 3. I needed a Red Sea miracle...

I cried to YHWH and He heard me and I watched the sea part v15 Channels of the Sea were seen...Foundation of the world uncovered for me?

- Pharaoh had me pinned. Stand back/watch Salvation of the Lord
- My Red Sea miracle right on time
 - 4. Bowed the Heavens/came down for me!
 - 5. He took me...He drew me out...He delivered me

They confronted-He supported/They hated me-He delighted in me They tried to imprison/confine me-He delivered me **into a broad place** v19

My Rock/My Fortress/ My Deliverer/My God/My Strength/My Shield

By my God I can run through an army...leap over a wall Your gentleness has made me great...Stoop down to make me great v35

• Our attitude to others should be the same. Stoop down to lift others?

Philippians 2:3 Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each **esteem others better than himself**. 4 Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.

Blessed by my Rock

David prayed and God bowed the Heavens/Spit the Sea for one guy...

Psalm 18 God of my Red Sea Miracles

Psalm 19

Jesus

To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David.

Light of Revelation Creation and the Word of God

1 The heavens declare the glory of God; And the firmament shows His handiwork. 2 Day unto day **utters speech**, And night unto night reveals knowledge. 3 There is no speech nor language Where their voice is not heard. 4 Their line has gone out through all the earth, And their words to the end of the world. In them He has set a tabernacle for the sun, 5 Which is like a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, And rejoices like a strong man to run its race. 6 Its rising is from one end of heaven, And its circuit to the other end; And there is nothing hidden from its heat. 7 The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul; The testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple; 8 The statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; The commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes; 9 The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever; The judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether. 10 More to be desired are they than gold, Yea, than much fine gold; Sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb. 11 Moreover by them Your servant is warned, And in keeping them there is great reward. 12 Who can understand his errors? Cleanse me from secret faults. 13 Keep back Your servant also from presumptuous sins; Let them not have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless, And I shall be innocent of great transgression. 14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart Be acceptable in Your sight, O Lord, my strength and my Redeemer.

David. The Heavens declare Glory. Glory of God

• 3 Heavens: Sky/Space/Abode of God [here]

Creation/Night Sky makes known the Invisible God to man...

Romans 1:20 ... since the **creation of the world** [God's] invisible attributes are **clearly seen**, being understood by the **things that are made**, even His eternal power and Godhead [Divine nature/Deity]

Night Sky Reveals a minute portion of the enormity of God to little man

Psalm 8:1 [David] O Lord, our Lord, How excellent is Your name in all the earth, Who have set Your **glory above the heavens**! ... 3 **When I consider Your heavens**, the work of Your fingers, The moon and the stars, which You have ordained, 4 **What is man** that You are mindful of him, And the son of man that You visit him?

• **Observe Stars:** Realize as children of God our **dad spoke them into existence...**

[The night sky is] ... a gushing spring that [abundantly] pours forth sweet, refreshing waters of revelation [Boice] IOWs **God is speaking to us...**

• Stars reveal knowledge, i.e., Light/Revelation

Day bids us labor, [yet] night reminds us to **prepare for our last home**; day bids us work for God, [yet] night **invites us to rest in Him**; day bids us look for [the] endless day, **and night warns us to escape from everlasting night**. [Spurgeon]

Awesome Glory of God revealed in the intricacy/immensity of His Creation He is Awesome. He is Glorious...

- Glorious in His size having created something so big [Guzik]
- Glorious in His engineering having created something that works together perfectly
- Glorious in His artistry having created something so beautiful
- Glorious goodness/kindness having created something for all humanity to see

Heavens declare the glory of God to whosoever will listen...even Aristotle

Should a man live underground...and should afterwards be brought up into the open... and see the several glories of the heaven and earth, **he would immediately** pronounce them the works of **such a Being as we define God to be**. [Aristotle]

God spoke the heavens into existence and today the heavens continue to resound, resonate, and sustain His voice to the entire earth. We see the same heavens as Abraham, Isaac, Jacob...as Moses, David, and Daniel. **We see the same heavens as Jesus 2000 years ago!** [NJC]

David is in Awe of the Creator as he looks up at...

• **200 Sextillion stars** i.e. 200 billion-trillion stars in our universe alone

By design: Heavens communicate the awesomeness of God to those on earth... The Light of the stars communicate the good news of a good God to little man...

Romans 10:18 ... have they not heard? Yes indeed: "Their sound has gone out to all the earth, And their words to the ends of the world."

Anyone anywhere can look up and be united in awe of our common Creator

Isaiah 40:22 It is He who sits above the circle of the earth, And its inhabitants are like grasshoppers, Who **stretches out the heavens like a curtain**, And spreads them out like a tent to dwell in.

- Sun

2. Distance

- 1. Radius 432,690 Miles
 - 92.96 million miles from earth. Not too close/far
- 3. **Temperature** 27 million degrees at core/10,000 on surface

- 4. **Energy 1 billion** times more energy than earth
- **Psalmists Poetic Imagery:** God sets a tent in sky for Sun run in/out
- Beauty of Design: Sun rises/sets/moves w/the strength a strongman/the joy of bridegroom

Where did the Heavens come from? How were they set in place?

Psalm 33:6 By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, And all the host of them by the breath of His mouth.

God creates from nothing. His voice brings non-existent into existence...

- Godhead: Father/Son/Holy Spirit all involved in Creation...
 - 1. God the Father Spoke...Let there be Light
 - 2. God the Spirit Supervised
 - 3. God the Son Created everything/Sustains everything

John 1:3 All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.

Colossians 1:16 For by Him [Jesus] all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. 17 And He is before all things, and **in Him all things consist.**

Hebrews 1:2b ... God's Son... through whom also He made the worlds...

Light/Revelation of Creation demands a response And so, the fool responds...there is no God

Romans 1:22 [suppress the truth] ... Professing to be wise, they became fools

Sea Change: As the Stars give Light in the midst of physical Darkness The Word gives Light to those in Spiritual Darkness

• The Word of God is Perfect

- 1. Converts souls
- 2. Makes simple wise
- 3. Brings Joy
- 4. Emanates purity
- 5. Gives light, Spiritual light for our souls...

Psalm 119:130 The entrance of Your words **gives light**; It gives understanding to the simple.

Fear of the Lord is beginning of Wisdom. Fear of the Lord is Clean

• **Fear of the Lord is clean:** Hearing/Heeding God's Word cleanses the heart

His Word is perfect: Undiluted Truth/Pure Righteousness

Psalm 111:7 The works of His hands are verity [truth] and justice; All His precepts are sure.

• Wisdom from God's Word is to be Desired

Psalm 119:72 The law of Your mouth is better to me Than thousands of coins of gold and silver... **127** Therefore I love Your commandments **More than gold**, yes, than fine gold!

Proverbs 8:10 Receive my instruction, and not silver, And knowledge rather than choice gold; 11 For **wisdom is better** than rubies, And all the things one may desire **cannot be compared with her... 19** My fruit [result of Wisdom found in God's Word] is better than gold, yes, than fine gold...

• By God's Word we are warned

Word of God fillets Hearts of Men...Exposes every Motive Thought/Action

• Human heart is Deceitful: Who can't truly know ourselves?

Psalm 139:23 Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me, and know my anxieties; 24 And **see if there is any wicked way in me**, And lead me in the way everlasting.

As Nothing hidden from the Light/Heat of the Sun So, nothing is hidden from the Light/Heat of God's Word/Living Word made flesh

Hebrews 4:12 For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. 13 And there is no creature hidden from **His sight** [Living Word Jesus], but all things are naked and open to the **eyes of Him** to whom we must give account.

> Revelation of Creation/God's Written Word Revealing our Hearts Leaves us pleading for God's Mercy to be cleansed...

Psalm 51:1 Have mercy upon me, O God, According to Your lovingkindness; According to the multitude of Your tender mercies, Blot out my transgressions. 2 **Wash me** thoroughly from my iniquity, And **cleanse me from my sin**.

Let the things I say/thoughts I think... Be pleasing to You Lord

Psalm 19 Light of Revelation Creation and the Word of God

Psalm 20

Jesus

To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David.

Prayer for Others

1 May the Lord answer you in the day of trouble; May the name of the God of Jacob defend you; 2 May He send you help from the sanctuary, And strengthen you out of Zion; 3 May He remember all your offerings, And accept your burnt sacrifice. Selah 4 May He grant you according to your heart's desire, And fulfill all your purpose. 5 We will rejoice in your salvation, And in the name of our God we will set up our banners! May the Lord fulfill all your petitions. 6 Now I know that the Lord saves His anointed; He will answer him from His holy heaven With the saving strength of His right hand. 7 Some trust in chariots, and some in horses; **But we will remember** the name of the Lord our God. 8 They have bowed down and fallen; But we **have risen** and stand upright. 9 Save, Lord! May the King answer us when we call.

> David. May the Lord answer you in the day of trouble Implication? We will all see a day of trouble or two...

Ephesians 6:13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the **evil day**, and having done all, to stand.

- Evil: gr. pon-ay-ros' labors, annoyances, hardships, pressed, harassed rt. pain
- David: Ill pray for you when you're going though it

Why does God want us to pray? Is there anything more selfless than to stop what we're doing?

Also, He wants us to join the Holy Spirit in cooperating with His will

May God Fulfill your desire and purpose. Not one or the other. God's purpose should be our desire

Psalm 37:4 Delight yourself also in the Lord, And He shall give you the desires of your heart.

• When our prayers for you are answered...

We'll raise up Banners/Get Party Hats/Ice Cream! We will celebrate what God has done in your life!

- **Other trust in idols:** As for me and my house/those I love...
 - 1. WE will serve the Lord together
 - 2. WE will trust in the Name of the Lord together
 - 3. WE will remember the Name of the Lord together

Ephesians 4:13 ...till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; 14 that we should **no longer be children, tossed to and fro** and **carried about** with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, 15 but, **speaking the truth in love, may grow up** in all things into Him who is the head—Christ—16 from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes **growth of the body** for the **edifying of itself in love.**

May the Lord answer you in the day of trouble

Psalm 20 David's Prayer for Others