

Wildly Wealthy and Utterly Dependent!

Psalm 16 | Aug 22, 2021 | Dave Gibson

The Spectrum: Used pop-up tent trailers ...hobby ranches ... joy rides into space ... King David.

The Truth: All people have different levels of resources and power, but identical levels of dependence and vulnerability. Please be clear: identical levels of dependence and vulnerability.

The Problem: We forget, in our affluence and our skillful striving, that we are utterly dependent and dangerously vulnerable beings.

Introduction: Psalm 16 is a worship poem that was written by the man who was arguably the most wealthy, powerful, and willful man who ever lived—King David the monarch of ancient Israel.

“Keep me safe, O God, for in you I take refuge. I say to the Lord, ‘You are my Lord; apart from you I have no good thing.’ As for the saints who are in the land, they are the glorious ones in whom is all my delight. The sorrows of those will increase who run after other gods. I will not pour out their libations of blood or take up their names on my lips. Lord, you have assigned me my portion and my cup; you have made my lot secure. The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; surely I have a delightful inheritance. I will praise the Lord, who counsels me; even at night my heart instructs me. I set the Lord always before me. Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken. Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will rest secure, because you will not abandon me to the grave, nor will you let your Holy One see decay. You have made known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand.” (Psalm 16)

...likely fleeing from Saul or Absalom, David makes a stunning declaration in verse one:

“I am utterly dependent and dangerously vulnerable!”

God is trustworthy in the vagaries of life in time and space—in this fallen world (Psalm 16:1-8)

- **God is our refuge.** – “Keep me safe, O God, for in you I take refuge.” (Psalm 16:1)
- **God is our Lord and our good.** – I say to the Lord, “You are my Lord; apart from you I have no good thing.” (Psalm 16:2)
- **God’s people are our delight.** – “As for the saints who are in the land, they are the glorious ones in whom is all my delight.” (Psalm 16:3)
- **Small gods are abhorrent and disastrous—both in time and eternity.** – “The sorrows of those will increase who run after other gods. I will not pour out their libations of blood or take up their names on my lips.” (Psalm 16:4)
- **God is our inheritance.** – “Lord, you have assigned me my portion and my cup; you have made my lot secure. The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; surely I have a delightful inheritance.” (Psalm 16:5-6)

- **God is our teacher.** – “I will praise the Lord, who counsels me; even at night my heart instructs me.” (Psalm 16:7)
- **God is our stability.** – “I set the Lord always before me. Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken.” (Psalm 16:8)

God is trustworthy in the beautiful territory of eternity. (Psalm 16:9-11)

- **Since God helped us in time, He will help us in eternity.** – “Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will rest secure.” (Psalm 16:9)
- **God will save us through His Son, our Sacrifice.** – “because you will not abandon me to the grave, nor will you let your Holy One see decay.” (Psalm 16:10)
- **God will lavish on us:**
 - ...the path of life.
 - ...fullness of joy.
 - ...eternal pleasures.

“You have made known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand.” (Psalm 16:11)

Listen! Every human is utterly dependent and dangerously vulnerable—even the wealthiest, most powerful people. If you are spiritually sane you will run to God for refuge.

I am a big fan of eternal life, fullness of joy, and eternal pleasure. God is the one “Outlet!”

God cares about people hiding in caves...investment portfolios do not.