

The Spirit and The Kingdom Pt. 2

Last week I stated that the intention of this series titled, “The Spirit & the Kingdom,” is for us to draw near to God with fresh desire to know, love and serve Him. Hopefully with the 21 days of Fasting & Prayer ending yesterday, we have sensed a greater awe of God’s nature and a renewed passion to pursue His will for our lives! Along those lines, let’s turn in our Bibles or tablets & cell phones to **Psalm 16**.

Psalm 16 is called “The Hope of the Faithful, and Messiah’s Victory” in the Spirit Filled Life Bible. The Passion Translation calls Psa. 16 “The Golden Secret” after the subtitle “A Michtam of David.” Though there are many variations for the Heb. word “*michtam*,” **TPT** says, “Here are the major ones: *golden, graven, a permanent writing, precious, hidden, or jewel*. The Septuagint renders this “a sculptured writing of gold”; other translations call it a “golden poem.” Perhaps the most accepted translation of *michtam* is “engraved in gold.” This speaks of the divine nature engraved into our hearts by the Word. A new humanity is now stamped with God-life, engraved in His golden glory.” Read **Psa. 16**
TPT:

1. *Keep me safe, O mighty God. I run for dear life to you, my safe place.*
[The word *michtam* could here be referring to deliverance from death.]

2. *So I said to the Lord God, “You are my Maker, my Mediator, and my Master. *Any good thing You find in me has come from you.”* **NKJV:** “O my soul, you have said to the **LORD** (the Heb. name of God – *Yahweh*), “You are my **Lord** (Heb. *Adonai*, a title meaning “Ruler, Master”), which reads, “O my soul, **you have said to [Yahweh], “You are my [Master].”** Apparently the Psalmist David is calling upon his “Master/Owner” (v. **1**) to protect what & who belongs to Him (“*keep me safe...my safe place*”).

Today, people are in danger of Hell & need to run to Christ for salvation.

***Aramaic** text, *“My goodness is found in your presence.”* Any goodness we have is only found in God’s presence! **1 Cor. 1:31 TPT** *“If anyone boasts (“triumphs”), let him only boast (“triumph”) in all that the “Lord has done!”*

V. 3 TPT *“And He said to me, “My holy lovers are wonderful, My majestic ones, my glorious ones, fulfilling all My desires.”* **4.** *Yet there are those who yield to their weakness, and they will have troubles and sorrows unending. I never gather with such ones, nor give them honor in any way.”* Are we honoring those who honor God? Many honor the opposite.

5. *“Lord, I have chosen You alone as my inheritance. You are my prize, my pleasure, and my portion. I leave my destiny and its timing in Your hands (**Aramaic**: “You are restoring my inheritance to me”; **NKJV**: “You maintain my lot.”* **V. 6** *The **lines** have fallen to me in pleasant places; Yes, I have a good inheritance.”* **Note:**

“Lots and lines refer poetically to the division of the Promised Land by Joshua, which climaxed the fulfillment of God’s promises. God is as special to the psalmist as this **inheritance** of land (**portion**).” Land was everything to the OT Jews as Heaven is to be to believers in Christ! David rehearses God’s goodness & faithfulness to him in the midst of danger. **So must we when afraid!**

7. TPT *“The way You counsel and correct me make me praise you more, for Your whispers in the night give me wisdom, showing me what to do next.”* **Psa. 127:2 TPT** *“It really is senseless to work so hard from early morning till late at night, toiling to make a living for fear of not having enough. God can provide [**AMPC**. “blessings”] for His lovers even while they sleep!”* **SFLB note:** “This is a condensed way of saying what Jesus taught in **Matt. 6:25-24** about worrying.”

8. *“Because You are close to me and always available, my confidence will never be **shaken**, for I experience your wrap-around presence every moment.”* **Matt. 28:20b TPT** Jesus to His disciples before ascending to Heaven: *“And never forget that I am with you every day, even to the completion of this age.”*

Selwyn Hughes, “Stirred, But Not Shaken” Jan. 28th, re: **Psa. 16:8 HCSB**: *“Because He is at my right hand, I will not be **shaken**.”* “Putting the glory of God before our well-being does not go down well with some modern-day Christians brought up in the “me” generation. It means that we have to break away from the idea that life revolves around our desires, our ambitions, our self-image, our personal comfort, our hurts and our problems, and embrace the fact that it revolves instead around the glory and the will of God. When we learn to apply the great text before us today to our lives, we will find, as did the Psalmist, that when we set the Lord always before us, then no matter what happens, we will be stirred but not shaken.”

9. *My heart and soul explode with joy – full of glory! Even my body will rest confident and secure.*

10. *For You will not abandon me to the realm of death (“the pit”, “the abode of the dead”), nor will you allow your Holy One to experience corruption (Peter in Acts 2:31-32 about Christ).*

11. *For you bring me a continual revelation of resurrection life., the path to the bliss that brings me **face-to-face with You**.”* **“TPT note**: “There is no Hebrew word for “*presence*.” When the Psalmist wanted to speak of God’s presence, he used the Hebrew word for “*face*.”

Let’s Have Fearless Faith

In dealing with fear this year, let’s remember Who God is to us! **Psa. 27:1-3 TPT** *“The Lord is my **revelation light** to guide me along the way; He’s the source of my **salvation** to defend me every day. I fear no one! I’ll never turn back and run from you, Lord; surround and protect me.*

2. When evil ones come to destroy me, they will be the ones who turn back. 3. My heart will not be afraid even if an army rises to attack. I know that You are there for me, so I will not be **shaken**.” Let’s declare these truths often, for God’s **strength, light & salvation** lessen our need for fear! **“I fear no one!”**

Let’s Hear the Heavenly Voice

Heb. 12:25-29 NKJV “See that you do not refuse Him who speaks. For if they did not escape who refused Him who spoke on earth, much more shall we not escape if we turn away from Him who speaks from heaven, 26. Whose voice then shook the earth; but now He has promised, saying, “Yet once more I shake (will shake) not only the earth, but also heaven.” 27. Now this, “Yet once more,” indicates the removal of those things that are being **shaken**, as of things that are made, that the things which cannot be **shaken** may remain. 28. Therefore, since we are receiving a **kingdom** which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear. 29. For our God is a consuming fire.”

Let’s Be Stirred But Not Shaken

Selwyn’s prayer: “Father, thank you for reminding me that I cannot avoid my soul’s being “stirred” by life’s problems, but when I have set You ever before me, then I can avoid being “shaken.” Drive this truth deep into my being this very day. In Jesus’ name. Amen.”