



Fullness of Joy in God My Refuge
Christ in Psalm 16

“God is God. If He is God, He is worthy of my trust and obedience. I will find rest nowhere but in His will.”



ESSENCE OF PSALM 16

If God is your *refuge, supreme treasure, Lord, and counsellor* — He will preserve you, and you will know overflowing joy and everlasting pleasure, both in life and beyond death, in His presence forever.



OUTLINE OF PSALM 16

- I. Trials must drive the believer to prayer and trust. (v. 1)
- II. Trust is proved by what the believer treasures. (vv. 2-8)
- III. Trust leads to abundant joy and lasting pleasure in God. (vv. 9-11)



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- I. Trials must drive the believer to prayer and trust. (v. 1)
 - A. David's prayer - "Preserve me, O God"
 - B. Basis: His *absolute trust* in God – "for You are my refuge"
 - "Refuge" - source of shelter from harm (c.f. Job 24:8)
 - False refuges – *idols* (Deut 32:37); in *lies* (Isa 28:15-17); in *riches* (Ps 52:7)
 - True refuge – in *God* (Ps 46:1), specifically *God the Son* (Ps 2:12)



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- II. Trust is proved by what the believer treasures. (vv. 2-8)
 - A. YHWH alone is their Master and source of all good (v. 2)
 - B. The saints are their delight; the wicked and their idols are renounced (vv. 3-4)
 - C. YHWH Himself is their most prized possession (v. 5-6)
 - D. God's word and presence form their soul's stability (v. 7-8)



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 - A. YHWH alone is their Master and source of all good (v. 2)
 - “LORD” = YHWH; the one true Covenant-God of Israel
 - “Lord” = Adonai; Master; One who owns you and cares for you



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 - “Saints” = “Holy ones”
 - “Majestic ones”= Those you consider noble, honourable



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 - “Portion,” “inheritance,” “lines” = Israel’s Promised Land inheritance
 - “Cup,” “lot” = destiny; allotted share in life



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 - A. Recognizing God's all-sufficiency results in gladness in life (vv. 9a)



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 - A. Recognizing God's all-sufficiency results in gladness in life (vv. 9a)
 - B. Resurrection hope in the Messiah yields security, joy and pleasure beyond death. (vv. 9b-11; c.f. Acts 2:25-32; 13:35)



John Cragge on Psalm 16:11

“This should serve as a ground of great comfort to every believing soul distressed with tedious bitterness in life: for a short sorrow here, we shall have eternal joy; for a little hunger, an eternal banquet; for light sickness and affliction, everlasting health and salvation; for a little imprisonment, endless liberty; for disgrace, glory.

Instead of the wicked who oppress, you will have angels and saints to comfort. Joseph’s prison shall be turned into a palace; Daniel’s lion’s den into the presence of the Lion of Judah Himself!”

- John Cragge



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APPLICATION

- I. Train your spiritual reflexes to turn to God in prayer when trials come .
- II. Examine your heart to see what it treasures—revealing if you genuinely trust God as your refuge.
- III. Fix your eyes on Christ and the hope of resurrection we have in him, for in that is our present hope and confidence of a future everlasting joy and pleasure.

