



Encountering God
THROUGH PRAYER

September 29th. through October 4th. 2019

Psalm 16:1-4

1 Keep me safe, my God, for in you I take refuge. 2 I say to the Lord, “You are my Lord; apart from you I have no good thing.” 3 I say of the holy people who are in the land, “They are the noble ones in whom is all my delight.” 4 Those who run after other gods will suffer more and more. I will not pour out libations of blood to such gods or take up their names on my lips.

Psalm 16:5-8

5 Lord, you alone are my portion and my cup; you make my lot secure. 6 The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; surely I have a delightful inheritance. 7 I will praise the Lord, who counsels me; even at night my heart instructs me. 8 I keep my eyes always on the Lord. With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken.

Psalm 16:9-11

9 Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will rest secure, 10 because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead, nor will you let your faithful one see decay. 11 You make known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand.

- The body of Peter's sermon on Pentecost is taken from Psalm 16.
 - Peter uses this psalm to prove to his audience that Jesus, who met all the prophetic demands for the Messiah, was the one they had nailed to the cross.
 - Any critical thinker would have gone back to this psalm after the lesson in search for the implications of that truth.
- The Psalm is a plea for safety and security (vs. 1).
 - This psalm teaches us (1) why we need to be secure (2) what it means to be secure (3) how we get security.

Why We Need to Be Secure...

- Like the Hebrew writer said about Abraham (Hebrews 11:10) and like David says here... We live in an insecure world, a world without foundations and so we seek security.
 - No physical foundations... Everything physical is winding down not ramping up.
 - No intellectual foundations... The intellectuals of today mock those of 20 years ago and intellectuals in a 20 years will mock those of today.
 - No individual foundations... What we thought mattered 10 years ago doesn't today.
- Important Note: David doesn't see being secure as a result of eliminating physical or emotional threats.
 - David sees the absence of such efforts as something that distinguishes believers from idolaters (vs. 4).

What a Secure Life Looks Like...

- vs. 3... Reserve our admiration for those running after God.
 - Implied Process... David looked for people who were pursuing God. When he found them he watched them. When he watched them it gave him joy.
- vs. 2, 5-6, 8... We have to decide that God is where we're going to go when we need securing because He's the only place we can go.
- vs. 7... It means that I'm fine not having it all figured out.
 - Do you say you don't have everything figured out but then act like you do and express disapproval for those who don't?
- vs. 9... Peace that comes from assurance, inside and out.

How We Become Secure...

- David's security was rooted in the knowledge that God would not abandon him (vs. 10).
 - It's often concluded that based on this text David must have known about the resurrection... that might be.
 - It could also be that what David is expressing here is absolute confidence in God based on the love God had for Him.
- We, more than David, can know this is true because God proved it in raising Jesus from the dead.
 - We often think about evidences as something that's for non-believers. What would happen if believers meditated on the evidences of the resurrection?
 - How did it work for Jewish believers that thought there might be a resurrection at the end of time but never expected on in the middle of time... (Acts 17:6 ESV)