

Our Trust in God Means that We Rely and Depend on Him (1-2)

- This is a Psalm about trusting in God. While we don't know the particular circumstances of David's writing of the Psalm (although he may have been fleeing from Saul), it is clear that its theme is trust in God. David recognizes that his only hope is to rely and depend totally on God, who provides for his people (cf Mk 10:18; Jas 1:17). David shows a complete reliance on God for everything.
- Where do you and I find our trust? If it is the things of this world in which we trust, we will ultimately be disappointed. To trust in this world is to trust in something that will disappear. Our dependence on God has to be complete and unwavering. V 1 indicates that David is in trouble. His solution is to take refuge in the Living God.

Our Trust in God Means that We Worship Him Alone (3-4)

- Vv 3 and 4 teach that we worship God alone. The saints are those fellow believers in ancient Israel. David rejects idolatry in v 4, preferring to have nothing to do with the other gods whom unbelievers follow.
- God demands our absolute allegiance; we dare give him no less than that. Part of trusting God, according to Psalm 16, is worshiping him alone (Ex 20:3). We do not run after another god (v 4), we worship the one true God and flee from idolatry. Our trust in God means that we worship him alone.

Our Trust in God Means that We Delight in Him (5-6)

- David goes on to say that he delights in the Lord, he is his chosen portion and cup, he holds, grasps or secures his lot, or David's portion. The word "cup" may refer to blessing or salvation (Ps 116:13) or to wrath (Is. 51:17, 22; Jer. 25:15). David delights that he has received undeserved blessing from the Lord rather than deserved wrath (cf Mt 20:22-24; 26:39). We rejoice that our Savior has taken the cup so that we do not experience the wrath of God. In the OT God showed his blessing through security from enemies in the Promised Land; David rejoices that his Lord has provided so richly for him. Our view as NT Christians doesn't look toward the Promised Land on this earth, but the promise of eternal life in Heaven and the eventual restoration and redemption of the world around us (Rev 21-22). Our trust in God means that we delight in him.

Our Trust in God Means that We Learn From Him (7-8)

- Vv 7-8 show that we learn from God, who counsels or guides us, even at night, according to David. Notice that the instruction from God gives God an inner confidence; David will not be shaken because God is always with him. Living before the face of God brings blessing and assurance (Prov 9:9-10; Jas 1:5).
- How do we go about acquiring that wisdom? Asking God for it, as James says, regularly attending the worship service to hear the preaching of the word, reading the Bible, meditating on it, engaging in a Bible study with other believers, praying and memorizing Scripture. Trusting in God means learning from him.

Our Trust in God Means that We Rejoice in the Hope of Eternal Life with Him (9-11)

- Finally, our trust in God means that we rejoice over spending eternity with him. The claim in v 10 is astounding; David certainly could not have been talking about himself, because his body did decay and see corruption. Instead, David was talking about Christ, as Peter confirms in Ac 2:25-32.
- David may not have understood life after death as well as we NT Christians do, but he had the confidence that God would bring the eventual king, King Jesus, who would have a body that God preserved, a body which didn't see decay. The reason for the confidence in Psalm 16:11 is that God fulfilled his promise to his people and sent his beloved Son to die on the cross for the sins of his people. Jesus reigns at God's right hand and thus we are not shaken. There is nothing, absolutely nothing, Paul tells us in Romans 8, that can separate us from the love of God.
- This Psalm causes us to think about our eternal hope in Christ. We dare not put any trust in the things of this world, for they are passing away. Our response to Psalm 16 is to put faith in Christ. This world is not the end of our existence, it is something we're passing through, living by faith, as we look toward that great day of being forever with Christ. Where do you put your trust? If you know the Lord Jesus, pray to trust him more fully and love him more deeply. If you don't have a relationship with God, would you trust him today? He is the one who makes known the path of life, and the only hope for this world and the next.