

# Psalm 16

**Psalms 16:1-4** [NIV] *“Keep me safe, O God, for in you I take refuge. I said 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.”*

We have in the first four verses the marks of a believer.

**God is the object of their trust** – in the sense that they take refuge in Him, [verse 1].

**1 Timothy 4:8-10** [NIV] *“For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come. This is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance (and for this we labour and strive), that we have put our hope in the living God, who is the Saviour of all men, and especially of those who believe.”*

Righteousness has to be exercised in the way we relate to God and other human beings.

**Our trust is in the Living God, our Saviour Jesus Christ**, not some person who like us will eventually die or who is already dead.

**2 Timothy 1:11-12** [King James] *“Whereunto I am appointed a preacher, and an apostle, and a teacher of the Gentiles. For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day.”*

Like Paul we may have to suffer because of our faith, but we also can trust God will preserve us until we have completed His will for our life.

**God is their Sovereign Lord and utterly sufficient** – [verse 2] – so apart from Him they desire no good things.

**Philippians 4:11-13** [NIV] *“I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do everything through him who gives me strength.”*

Paul had learnt to be content in any situation because of his total trust in Jesus Christ.

**1 Timothy 6:6** [King James] *“But godliness with contentment is great gain.”*

Seeking righteousness through our Lord and Saviour is great gain now by being content and in the future eternal life.

**Hebrews 13:5** [NIV] *“Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, ‘Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.’”*

The things that money may bring will always be only for this short physical life.

**Delights in Christian fellowship** – [verse 3].

**Malachi 3:16** [King James] *“Then they that feared the LORD spake often one to another: and the LORD hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the LORD, and that thought upon his name.”*

Christian fellowship is something that God encourages and delights in.

**Acts 2:41-47** [NIV] *“Those who accepted his message were baptised, and about three thousand were added to their number that day. They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favour of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.”*

The fellowship of the early church Christians included fellowship meals and the sharing of possessions and goods, [**John 13:35**].

**Shuns all false worship – [verse 4].**

**Joshua 23:7-8** [NIV] *“Do not associate with these nations that remain among you; do not invoke the names of their gods or swear by them. You must not serve them or bow down to them. But you are to hold fast to the LORD your God, as you have until now.”*

Our associations and relationships with non-Christians whom we meet on a day-to-day basis can become temptations to drift away from our worship and service of God, [**Psalms 1:1; Proverbs 4:14; Proverbs 24:1**].

**1 Corinthians 5:11** [NIV] *“But now I am writing to you that you must not associate with anyone who calls himself a brother but is sexually immoral or greedy, an idolater or a slanderer, a drunkard or a swindler. With such a man do not even eat.”*

This temptation can even come from those who claim to be Christians.

**2 Corinthians 6:14-16** [NIV] *“Do not be yoked together with unbelievers. For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness? What harmony is there between Christ and Belial? What does a believer have in common with an unbeliever? What agreement is there between the temple of God and idols? For we are the temple of the living God. As God has said: ‘I will live with them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they will be my people.’”*

This applies to business deals or partnerships as well as marriage.

**Psalms 16:5-8** [NIV] *“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 have set the LORD always before me. Because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.”*

Listed are the present blessings that God pours out on a faithful believer.

God supplies all of our needs both physical and spiritual.

God gives us a promise of a wonderful inheritance, [**Romans 8:16-17**].

God, through His Word, the Christian Bible, gives believers good counsel on how we should conduct our life.

God gives us protection by going before us and comfort by being right beside us.

**Psalms 16:9** [NIV] *“Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will rest secure,”*

David’s heart was glad for he had found the secret of joy.

True joy is far deeper and lasting than happiness that is based on temporary external circumstances.

Joy is lasting because it is based on God's presence within us, that brings us contentment.

As we understand the future God has for us we will experience this lasting joy, so we don't base our life on present circumstances, but on God.

**Psalms 16:10-11** [NIV] *"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."*

"Holy One" the Hebrew "*châcîyd*" means kind, godly and merciful. The Hebrew translated "decay" is "*shalhath*" meaning destruction.

David stated confidently that God would **not** leave him in the grave.

**Many people fear death because they can neither control or understand it.**

As believers we can be assured that God will **not** forget us when we die, [**Ecclesiastes 12:7**].

God will bring us back to life again in a resurrection, Christians at Jesus Christ's Second Coming, and others in another resurrection later in time.

**Job 19:25-27** [NIV] *"I know that my Redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand upon the earth. And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God; I myself will see him with my own eyes, I, and not another. How my heart yearns within me!"*

Job was confident of his future resurrection after death.

**Isaiah 26:19** [NIV] *"But your dead will live; their bodies will rise. You who dwell in the dust, wake up and shout for joy. Your dew is like the dew of the morning; the earth will give birth to her dead."*

Isaiah speaks of the same resurrections, [**1 Corinthians 15:12-58**; **1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**; **Revelation 20:11-13**].

**Isaiah 35:10** [NIV] *"and the ransomed of the LORD will return. They will enter Zion with singing; everlasting joy will crown their heads. Gladness and joy will overtake them, and sorrow and sighing will flee away."*

The joyful existence in the coming Kingdom of God.

**Romans 14:17** [NIV] *"For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit,"*

**Righteousness, peace and joy are the basis of the Kingdom of God.**

**Revelation 21:1-7** [NIV] *"Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, 'Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.' He who was seated on the throne said, 'I am making everything new!' Then he said, 'Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.' He said to me: 'It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To him who is thirsty I will give to drink without cost from the spring of the water of life. He who overcomes will inherit all this, and I will be his God and he will be my son.'"*

This is the beginning of a Christian's inheritance with Jesus Christ, [**Romans 8:16-17**].

**Revelation 22:17, 20-21** [NIV] *“The Spirit and the bride say, ‘Come!’ And let him who hears say, ‘Come!’ Whoever is thirsty, let him come; and whoever wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life.” ... “He who testifies to these things says, ‘Yes, I am coming soon.’ Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. The grace of the Lord Jesus be with God’s people. Amen.”*

It is at the return of Jesus Christ that a new world ruled by Him will dawn. A new age that will be freed from the deceptions of Satan, [**Revelation 12:9; Revelation 20:1-3**].