

The Psalms: “You Will Not Abandon My Soul”

Having reached the life of David in our search for the King, we’ve been looking at several of the psalms written by David. Where are they quoted in the New Testament? Why? How are they used by the

apostles and Gospel-writers? What’s the connection to Jesus? How do they help us see our own King more clearly and understand his mission and will for our lives?

Psalm 16 is our last psalm in this series. “Preserve me, O God,” is David’s prayer, “for in you I take refuge” (16:1). Notice especially what he wrote in 16:9-10:

Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices;
my _____ also dwells secure.

For you will not abandon my soul to _____,
or let your holy one see corruption.

What did David mean by “Sheol”? It might help to notice other instances where the same word is used. For example:

“No, I shall go down to Sheol to my _____, mourning.” (Gen 37:35)

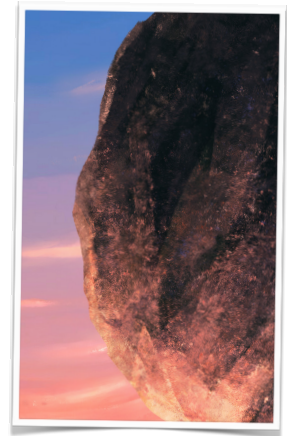
“For the waves of _____ encompassed me,
the torrents of destruction assailed me;
the cords of Sheol entangled me;
the snares of death confronted me.” (2 Sam 22:5-6)

As the cloud fades and vanishes,
so he who goes down to Sheol does not come _____. (Job 7:9)

But why would David say what he did in Psalm 16? The picture probably isn’t very clear until Peter’s sermon on the Day of Pentecost in **Acts 2** when he points the attention of thousands to Jesus of Nazareth. Listen carefully to what he says in 2:29-32:

“Brothers, I may say to you with confidence about the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Being therefore a _____, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would set one of his descendants on his throne, he _____ and spoke about the _____ of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses.”

What’s the connection? Of all the passages Peter could reach back to, why **Psalm 16**? What was David doing by writing it? What does its connection to **Acts 2** teach us about the Bible? About Jesus? What do we need to see and believe? **Let’s talk about it...**



For Class & Family Discussion:

- As you look back at [Psalm 16](#), how would you describe the overall message? What is David's theme throughout the psalm?
- Practically speaking, what does it mean to “[set the LORD always before me](#)” ([16:8](#))? What does that even look like? How is it done? And what difference could it make in my life?
- With [Psalm 16:10](#) in mind, what would it mean for someone's “[soul](#)” to be “[abandoned to Sheol](#)”?
- What does David mean in [Psalm 16:10](#) by “[corruption](#)”?
- With those statements in mind, what does Peter want to make sure we clearly understand in [Acts 2:29](#)?
- So how (and why), according to Peter in [Acts 2:30-31](#), did David write what he wrote in [Psalm 16](#)? What does this tell us about passages in our Old Testaments like [Psalm 16](#)?
- Paul references the same passage in [Acts 13:16-41](#) in a synagogue at Antioch in Pisidia. Why? As you scan his message, how would you describe what he is communicating?
- What should we make of [Psalm 16:11](#)? What difference does the resurrection of our King make? Does it really have any practical impact on your life?

For NEXT Sunday:

- Read and meditate on [2 Samuel 7](#). What does it have to do with our search for our King?