

Psalm 16 An atonement psalm of David

¹⁻² Dear LORD,

You are my security and I trust in You. Please guard and protect me. ² Because I trust in You I prayed and said,

“You are my LORD, and I know that apart from You I have nothing in and of myself that is good in Your sight!” ³ There are those who are born again and are living a good and godly life. They are the ones I look up to, and they are the ones I want as my close friends. ⁴ On the contrary, those who have rejected You in exchange for a cheap imitation god will experience anxiety and pain in the form of hurts, heartaches, and losses. I steadfastly refuse to participate with them in sacrificing to their gods, and I refuse to even speak the names of those gods. ⁵ Why should I feel this way? Because I am a child of God, and You are my guarantee of an inheritance in heaven when I die. You will provide me with all that I need while I am alive since You guide my life and have my future planned out in detail. ⁶ The circumstances of life have been pleasant because You have been guiding and protecting me. Living with You for eternity in Your beautiful heaven when I die is a wonderful and assuring promise, one that I know You will keep.

⁷ I will bless Your name because You have counselled me well. What I have meditated upon from your Word speaks to me in the nighttime, and it teaches me not only what to believe but also how to live. ⁸ As a result, I have made You the focal point of my life. I am certain that You will walk beside me everywhere I go, watching and protecting me. Therefore, nothing will cause me to stumble or fall when I walk with You. ⁹ Since I know that these things are true, my heart is glad, and I can confidently rest in Your bodily care for me. ¹⁰ Jesus Christ the Messiah died and was raised from the dead. When I die my body will decay, but I am confident that You will not abandon me there. At death You will take my spirit to heaven to be with You for all eternity.

¹¹ I am sure that while I am still alive You will continually enlighten me through Your Word and show me how to live good and godly in this world. Being in Your presence has brought abundant joy my way, and I will experience pleasures forever since I will be with You in glory where I will be part of all that will transpire there.”