

PSALM 16

We will find verses 8-11 of this psalm quoted by Peter in Acts 2:25-38, wherein he states that David was speaking of Jesus the Messiah, as well as by Paul in Acts 13:35-38. Yet it is doubtful that it can be said that the entire psalm is Messianic. The line of thought running through the psalm may be outlined as follows: David first states the attitude he has taken toward Yahweh and what Yahweh means to him (vv. 1,2); he then shows how this basic attitude determines his position in regards to the two groups of mankind (vv. 3,4); he next describes the present blessedness that he enjoys as a result of having taken Yahweh as his portion (vv. 5-8); and lastly he outlines the possibilities for the future that lie ahead when trusting in his God.

A Mikhtam of David.

- 1 Preserve me, O God, for in you I take refuge.
- 2 I say to YAHWEH, "You are my Lord; I have no good apart from you."

- 3 As for the saints in the land, they are the excellent ones, in whom is all my delight.
- 4 The sorrows of those who run after another god shall multiply;
their drink offerings of blood I will not pour out or take their names on my lips.

- 5 YAHWEH is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot.
- 6 The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;
indeed, I have a beautiful inheritance.
- 7 I bless YAHWEH who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me.
- 8 I have set YAHWEH always before me;
because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.

- 9 Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices; my flesh also dwells secure.
- 10 For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol, or let your holy one see corruption.
- 11 You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy;
at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

PRAYER

O God, you have become to us through Christ Jesus the portion of our inheritance and our merciful God. Preserve and maintain all those good things that you have worked in us and for us. And grant us grace that we may never fall, but that we would always set you before us, rejoicing and giving praise for the works of your hands. May all carnal affections die, and all things belonging to the Spirit live and grow, so that when our flesh fails we may be joyful through hope of a glorious resurrection to eternal life through Jesus Christ, our only Advocate and Redeemer. Amen.