

Psalm 16 - "You Hold My Lot"

August 11, 2019

Psalm 16:1-11 ESV A Miktam of David.

1 Preserve me, O God, for in you I take refuge.

2 I say to the LORD, "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 The LORD 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 the LORD who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me.

8 I have set the LORD 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.

- **My life on earth is not determined by:**
 - me, my efforts, my accomplishments
 - others
 - circumstances, fate, chance
 - but by God's plan and sovereignty alone
- **The line between God's sovereignty and my efforts are absolutely indiscernible to human perception because they are seamlessly synchronized and unified.**

Daniel 4:28-36 ESV

28 All this came upon King Nebuchadnezzar.

29 At the end of twelve months he was walking on the roof of the royal palace of Babylon,

30 and the king answered and said, "Is not this great Babylon, which I have built by my mighty power as a royal residence and for the glory of my majesty?"

31 While the words were still in the king's mouth, there fell a voice from heaven, "O King Nebuchadnezzar, to you it is spoken: The kingdom has departed from you,

32 and you shall be driven from among men, and your dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field. And you shall be made to eat grass like an ox, and seven periods of time shall pass over you, until you know that the Most High rules the kingdom of men and gives it to whom he will."

33 Immediately the word was fulfilled against Nebuchadnezzar. He was driven from among men and ate grass like an ox, and his body was wet with the dew of heaven till his hair grew as long as eagles' feathers, and his nails were like birds' claws.

34 At the end of the days I, Nebuchadnezzar, lifted my eyes to heaven, and my reason returned to me, and I blessed the Most High, and praised and honored him who lives forever, for his dominion is an everlasting dominion, and his kingdom endures from generation to generation;

35 all the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing, and he does according to his will among the host of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth; and none can stay his hand or say to him, "What have you done?"

36 *At the same time my reason returned to me, and for the glory of my kingdom, my majesty and splendor returned to me. My counselors and my lords sought me, and I was established in my kingdom, and still more greatness was added to me.*

"Impress me deeply with a sense of thine omnipresence, that Thou art about my path, my ways, my lying down, my end."
—God the Source of All Good, Valley of Vision, Puritan Prayers

Psalm 37:23-24 NASB

23 *The steps of a man are established by the LORD, And He delights in his way.*

24 *When he falls, he will not be hurled headlong, Because the LORD is the One who holds his hand.*

Psalm 139:16 ESV

16 *Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them.*

John 10:27-29 NASB

27 *"My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me;*

28 *and I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of My hand.*

29 *"My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand.*

Romans 8:38-39 NASB

38 *For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers,*

39 *nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

Romans 8:28 ESV

28 *And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.*

"When you go through a trial, the sovereignty of God is the pillow upon which you lay your head."

—Charles Spurgeon

- **Two of the hardest trials for the Christian:**

- **waiting on God**
- **surrender to His sovereign plan**

"If our hopes are being disappointed just now, it means that they are being purified...One of the greatest strains in life is the strain of waiting for God."

—Oswald Chambers, The Discipline of Spiritual Tenacity, February 22, My Upmost for His Highest

Psalm 37:5-8 ESV

5 *Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him, and he will act.*

6 *He will bring forth your righteousness as the light, and your justice as the noonday.*

7 *Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him; fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way, over the man who carries out evil devices!*

8 Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath! Fret not yourself; it tends only to evil.

John 5:19 ESV

19 So Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of his own accord, but only what he sees the Father doing. For whatever the Father does, that the Son does likewise.

- *Waiting on the Lord is neither passivity nor dormancy, but rather just the opposite; the surrender and synchronization of my will and my ways to His.*

Galatians 5:25 NASB

25 If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit.

- *ESV "If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit."*

"Our complete dependence on the will of God is nowhere more clearly evident than in the fact that we cannot determine what our life will be even one day ahead, or even one hour...And the more I feel that every moment of my life is dependent on the will of God, the more keenly aware I will be that my life must be in accordance with that will."
—Andrew Murray, Chapter 26, If the Lord Will, Not My Will

- **Until I can embrace what He has designed for me as right and best, I will never be able to say, "The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places..."**

"Jesus said there are times when God cannot lift the darkness from you, but you should trust Him. At times God will appear like an unkind friend, but He is not; He will appear like an unnatural father, but He is not; He will appear like an unjust judge, but He is not. Keep the thought that the mind of God is behind all things strong and growing. Not even the smallest detail of life happens unless God's will is behind it. Therefore, you can rest in perfect confidence in Him."
—Oswald Chambers

Genesis 45:1-8 ESV

1 Then Joseph could not control himself before all those who stood by him. He cried, "Make everyone go out from me." So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers.
2 And he wept aloud, so that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it.
3 And Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph! Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, for they were dismayed at his presence.
4 So Joseph said to his brothers, "Come near to me, please." And they came near. And he said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt."
5 And now do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life.
6 For the famine has been in the land these two years, and there are yet five years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest.
7 And God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors.
8 So it was not you who sent me here, but God. He has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt.

Name three circumstances in your life that have hurt you, opposed you, frustrated you or discouraged you the most. Yet those are the very things that worked the deepest good in you. Would you want to live without their eternal effects in your life?

- **It is impossible for us to know and understand how all the moving parts in God's sovereign strategy is accomplishing the perfections of God's goodness and wisdom. It is enough for God to reveal to us our next step, which He promises to do.**

"There comes the baffling call of God in our lives also. The call of God can never be stated explicitly; it is implicit. The call of God is like the call of the sea, no one hears it but the one who has the nature of the sea in him. It cannot be stated definitely what the call of God is to, because His call is to be in comradeship with Himself for His own purposes, and the test is to believe that God knows what He is after. The things that happen do not happen by chance, they happen entirely in the decree of God. God is working out His purposes."

"If we are in communion with God and recognize that He is taking us into His purposes, we shall no longer try to find out what His purposes are. As we go on in the Christian life it gets simpler, because we are less inclined to say — 'Now why did God allow this and that?' Behind the whole thing lies the compelling of God. 'There's a divinity that shapes our ends.' A Christian is one who trusts the wits and the wisdom of God, and not his own wits. If we have a purpose of our own, it destroys the simplicity and the leisureliness which ought to characterize the children of God." —Oswald Chambers

Ecclesiastes 3:1-2 ESV

1 For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:

2 a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted...

Ecclesiastes 3:11 ESV

11 He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also, he has put eternity into man's heart, yet so that he cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end.

NKJV "He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also He has put eternity in their hearts, except that no one can find out the work that God does from beginning to end."

NLT "Yet God has made everything beautiful for its own time. He has planted eternity in the human heart, but even so, people cannot see the whole scope of God's work from beginning to end."

Hebrews 11:7-8 ESV

7 By faith Noah, being warned by God concerning events as yet unseen, in reverent fear constructed an ark for the saving of his household. By this he condemned the world and became an heir of the righteousness that comes by faith.

8 By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.

- *Your heart and mind will never rest until you make peace with not knowing.*

Ecclesiastes 3:14 ESV

14 I perceived that whatever God does endures forever; nothing can be added to it, nor anything taken from it. God has done it, so that people fear before him.