

Protect me, "From me" Lord.

November 22, 2021

PSALM 16:1-2 NKJV – (1) Keep me safe, my God, for in you I take refuge. (2) I say to the LORD, "You are my Lord; apart from you I have no good thing."

Often, we ask God to protect us from everybody and everything other than ourselves. How is that David always ran back to God? Because he understood that God was his shelter even from himself. David asks the Lord to keep him safe. His life was marked with combat and other dangers (**1 Samuel 19:8; Psalm 144:1**); he deeply understood what it meant to trust God for protection. As part of that, David recognized that ultimate security only comes from God. A "refuge" is a shelter, meant to protect against some threat or disaster. In the ancient world, that might have included a reinforced tower or a cave in a high mountain. A refuge kept the threat—such as an enemy—at bay. That enemy being Satan.

Early in life, David learned to trust in the Lord for safety. His battle with the giant Goliath demonstrates this. He met Goliath with only a staff, a shepherd's pouch, a sling, and five smooth stones. When Goliath mocked him, David responded, "This day the LORD will deliver you into my hand, and I will strike you down and cut off your head" (**1 Samuel 17:46**). He also declared, "The battle is the LORD's" (**1 Samuel 17:47**). We can learn from past victories that the Lord is our refuge and worthy of our trust. **Romans 8:37** points out that even earthly defeat is only temporary: "We are more than conquerors through him who loved us." When David was called out on his sin with Bathsheba, he confessed! Why? Not only it was right before God but he couldn't experience that peace and even the protection from the evil wolves of life.

We can be our worst enemy at times. Ask Jehovah Nissi to protect you and may we stay in His heavenly arms.

SCRIPTURE READING: PROVERBS 2:11

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: He that takes truth for his guide, and duty for his end, may safely trust to God's providence to lead him alright.

"A JOURNEY OF THE HEART"