Psalm 16, Bible Study Outline

By James Moriello, Firm Foundation Christian Church, Woonsocket RI, 2020

- 1. Authorship: David, "Michtam" meaning uncertain, some loosely translate as golden, some as hidden, as we read we see not only David speaking but also Jesus in prayer to the Father in His Incarnation (Gethsemane, Cf. Mark 14:32-41), to the degree this is so, we have this Psalm with (Psalm 22?) and John 17 as three fine examples of the prayers of the Lord Himself
- 2. Themes: preservation and hope of the faithful, which are ultimately based on Messiah's victory, this is one of the Messianic Psalms
- 3. 16:1, the truster and the Trustee of our souls, Cf. 2 Timothy 4:18
- 4. 16:2-3, two perspectives
 - a. God's perspective: essential unity according to the nature of the Triune God, His delight in His children (believers, trusters)
 - b. Man's perspective: John 15:5; 1 Corinthians 2:14-16
- 5. 16:4, sin's misery, association of all sin with idolatry
- 6. 16:5-6, now the personal name of God the Father invoked
 - a. Inheritance of Messiah: "all things", Hebrews 1:1-2
 - b. Inheritance of the Saints: a heavenly heritage, eternal life, Ephesians 1:3-14; 1 Peter 1:3-4
- 7. 16:7-8, spiritual disciplines, maintained perfectly by Christ
 - a. "bless the Lord", an attitude of praise
 - b. "counsel", the Word of God
 - c. "night seasons", prayer and biblical meditation
 - d. "always before me", a safe bet always
 - e. "at my right hand" to steady us in our daily walk
- 8. 16:8-11, certain hope of bodily resurrection, raising of the body from "Sheol" (Greek: Hades), the place of the dead
 - a. Messianically applied: Acts 2:22-28
 - b. "Your Holy One", a name of Christ, each word significant
 - c. "corruption", only being in the grave for parts of 3 days and then being bodily resurrected, Cf. John 2:18-22