WEAVER STUDY GUIDES

Psalm 16 The Golden Psalm

Study Guide

New Testament Studies

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A lesson-by-lesson companion for reading, discussion, and written responses.

Downloadable classroom edition | 8.5 x 11 inches

Name / group

Date

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Using this guide

Read the corresponding chapter, then work through the themes, arguments, and Scripture references.

Write your responses before discussing the questions with others. Use the application pages to identify a practical next step.

The study material is retained from the existing lecture study guides. Added writing prompts provide space for your own response.

Print at Actual Size / 100% on US Letter paper. Single-sided and double-sided printing are both suitable. Lessons begin on the next available page; no blank pages are inserted.

Reading assignments refer to the September 30, 2026 edition of the companion book. Online lecture links and QR codes are collected at the end.

LESSON 1

Pastor John Weaver - Psalm 16 The Golden Psalm

Part One of Four

January 26, 2012

Read Chapter 1 in the companion book, pages 5-23.

Major Themes

Trust in God as Refuge

The psalm emphasizes fleeing to God for protection and placing one's hope entirely in Him.

Lecture support: Weaver explains the Hebrew word 'chasah' (trust) as fleeing to someone for protection, citing Psalms 5, 7, 9, and 11.

Messianic Nature of Psalm 16

The psalm is directly applied to Jesus Christ by Peter and Paul, highlighting His life, death, resurrection, and glorification.

Lecture support: Weaver reads Acts 2:25-32 and Acts 13:33-37, showing the New Testament's application of Psalm 16:8-11 to Christ.

Divine Preservation

God preserves and protects His people, as demonstrated in Christ's life and promised to believers.

Lecture support: Weaver recounts how God protected Christ from Herod, in the wilderness, and from mobs, and cites Romans 8:31-32 and Jude 24.

God's Inherent Perfection

God's inherent glory is unaffected by human actions; nothing can be added to or taken from Him.

Lecture support: Weaver teaches that God is the most perfect being, and our goodness does not extend to Him, citing Calvin's commentary.

Ministering to God through the Saints

Service to God is accomplished by ministering to His people, as Christ's work benefits believers.

Lecture support: Weaver references Hebrews 6:10 and Matthew 25:40 to show that ministering to saints is ministering to God.

Key Arguments

Psalm 16 is a messianic psalm about Christ.

The New Testament explicitly applies Psalm 16:8-11 to Jesus, not merely to David.

Lecture support: Weaver cites Acts 2:25-31 and Acts 13:34-37, where Peter and Paul quote Psalm 16 in reference to Christ's resurrection.

Trust in God is a powerful plea that honors Him.

Trusting God acknowledges His sovereignty and places us in proper humility before Him.

Lecture support: Weaver states, 'Trusting in Him is one of the highest honors that we can give Him... we're recognizing that God is on the throne.'

God preserved Christ throughout His earthly life.

The Father guarded Jesus from infancy to the cross, ensuring His mission was fulfilled at the appointed time.

Lecture support: Weaver details events from Matthew 2, Luke 4, and John 7, showing divine protection until Christ's hour came.

Believers are immortal until God's ordained time.

In Christ, believers cannot be killed before their appointed day because God protects them.

Lecture support: Weaver declares, 'In Christ, we are immortal until the day that God has ordained that we die.'

Human goodness adds nothing to God's perfection.

God's inherent glory is complete; our service benefits the saints, not God.

Lecture support: Weaver explains, 'My goodness extendeth not to Thee' means nothing we do profits God, citing Calvin and Spurgeon.

Scripture References

Psalm 16:1-11

The entire psalm is read at the beginning of the sermon.

Acts 2:25-32

Peter applies Psalm 16:8-11 to Christ's resurrection.

Acts 13:33-37

Paul quotes Psalm 16:10 to prove Christ's resurrection and incorruption.

Matthew 10:32-33

Jesus refers to God as His Father, illustrating His trust.

John 20:17

Jesus speaks of 'my Father and your Father,' showing relational trust.

1 Peter 2:21

Christ is our example in suffering and trust.

Psalm 5:11

Used to illustrate the meaning of trust as fleeing for defense.

Psalm 7:1

Shows trust as seeking deliverance from persecutors.

Psalm 9:10

Trust is linked to God not forsaking those who seek Him.

Psalm 11:1

Trust in the Lord eliminates fear.

Isaiah 42:1-8

Messianic prophecy of God upholding His servant, applied to Christ.

Matthew 12:18

Isaiah 42 applied to Christ.

Luke 2:32

Christ as light to Gentiles, fulfilling Isaiah 42.

Matthew 2:8, 12-13, 22

God's protection of the infant Christ from Herod.

Mark 1:13

Angels ministered to Christ in the wilderness.

Luke 4:22-30

Christ's preservation from an angry mob in Nazareth.

John 7:1, 30

Jews sought to kill Jesus but could not because His hour had not come.

John 12:27

Jesus acknowledges His appointed hour to die.

Isaiah 54:17

Promise that no weapon formed against God's servants will prosper.

Romans 8:31-32

If God is for us, no one can be against us; He will freely give us all things.

Study notes

Discussion Questions

1. What does it mean to trust God as a refuge, and how can we cultivate that trust in daily life?

Consider: Based on the explanation of 'chasah' and the examples from Psalms 5, 7, 9, and 11.

2. How does the New Testament's application of Psalm 16 to Christ deepen our understanding of the psalm?

Consider: Weaver shows Peter and Paul applying verses 8-11 to Jesus' resurrection.

3. In what ways did God the Father preserve Jesus Christ during His earthly ministry, and what does that teach us about God's protection?

Consider: Examples from Matthew 2, Luke 4, and John 7 are given.

4. How should the truth that 'in Christ, we are immortal until God's ordained time' affect our response to trials and persecution?

Consider: Weaver's statement and the promises in Romans 8 and Jude.

5. Why is it important to confess 'Thou art my Lord' from the soul and not just with lips?

Consider: Discussion of Isaiah 29:13 and the depth of true confession.

6. How does understanding God's inherent perfection change our perspective on serving Him?

Consider: Weaver explains that our goodness does not extend to God; He needs nothing from us.

7. What does it mean to minister to God by ministering to the saints, and how can we practice this?

Consider: References to Hebrews 6:10 and Matthew 25:40.

8. How does Christ's example of trust and His prosperity benefiting us encourage us in our walk?

Consider: Application of Psalm 16:2-3 to Christ and believers.

Applications

Pray for God's preservation with trust.

Believers should pray 'Preserve me, O God' with full confidence in His protection, following David's and Christ's example.

Lecture support: Weaver emphasizes the prayer of verse 1 and its application to believers through Christ.

Rest in God's sovereign protection.

Because God preserves His people, we can face trials without fear, knowing we are immortal until His appointed time.

Lecture support: Weaver states, 'In Christ, we are immortal until the day that God has ordained that we die,' citing Romans 8 and Jude.

Confess Christ as Lord from the heart.

True devotion requires acknowledging Christ's lordship with the soul, not mere lip service.

Lecture support: Weaver contrasts David's heartfelt confession with Israel's hypocrisy in Isaiah 29:13.

Serve God by serving His people.

Since our goodness does not benefit God directly, we minister to Him by ministering to the saints.

Lecture support: Weaver cites Hebrews 6:10 and Matthew 25:40 to show that service to believers is service to Christ.

Embrace humility in service.

Recognize that God needs nothing from us; our service is a privilege that benefits others, not God.

Lecture support: Weaver quotes William Secker: 'It is a greater glory to us that we are allowed to serve God than it is to Him.'

Personal Application and Notes

Which application will you work on, and what specific step will you take?

What Scripture or teaching will you return to as you put this into practice?

Additional notes or questions to discuss

LESSON 2

Pastor John Weaver - Psalm 16 The Golden Psalm

Part Two of Four

January 26, 2012

Read Chapter 2 in the companion book, pages 25-43.

Major Themes

Contentment of Trust

True trust in God produces contentment, contrasting with the restlessness of idolatry.

Lecture support: Weaver introduces the theme: 'So today we come to Psalm 16, in verses 4 through 7, and we're going to cover one point, and that is the contentment of trust.'

Idolatry as Broad and Treasonous

Idolatry is not limited to image worship but includes covetousness, self-will, and any departure from God's revealed will.

Lecture support: Weaver states: 'But what we try to do is this. We try to limit idolatry to the worship of stones and sticks... It covers our vileness, our baseness, our covetousness, and our lustfulness.'

The Curse of Idolatry

Idolatry brings inherent and external curses, multiplying sorrows for those who pursue other gods.

Lecture support: Weaver explains: 'Idolatry carries an inherent curse as well as an external curse... their sorrows shall be multiplied that hasten after another God.'

God as Our Portion and Inheritance

Believers inherit God Himself, as the Levitical priests did, and He maintains their lot.

Lecture support: Weaver says: 'The Lord is the portion of mine inheritance, and of my cup Thou maintainest my lot.'

The Comfort of Fidelity

Faithfulness to God brings stability, comfort, and a goodly heritage, unlike the sorrows of idolatry.

Lecture support: Weaver contrasts: 'You could contrast the restlessness of idolatry with the comfort and stability and fidelity of those who trust in Jehovah.'

Divine Counsel and Preservation

God counsels believers, drawing them to Christ, and maintains their lot, ensuring their perseverance.

Lecture support: Weaver states: 'I will bless the Lord who has given me counsel... God maintains our lot. He is the one who is responsible for our upkeep, for our preservation.'

Key Arguments

Idolatry is any departure from God's revealed will

Idolatry includes covetousness and self-will, not just image worship, because violating any commandment dethrones God.

Lecture support: Weaver argues: 'You cannot violate "Thou shalt not steal" until you first violate "Thou shalt have no other gods before me."'

Idolatry brings multiplied sorrows

Those who hasten after other gods incur inherent and external curses, leading to multiplied pains and hurts.

Lecture support: Weaver says: 'Their sorrows shall be multiplied that hasten after another God... Idolaters quickly and swiftly fly and run into harm's way.'

God is the believer's portion and inheritance

Like the Levitical priests, believers inherit God Himself, and He maintains their lot, providing contentment.

Lecture support: Weaver explains: 'The Lord is the portion of mine inheritance... Thou maintainest my lot.'

Faithfulness to God yields a goodly heritage

Believers receive a heritage of saints, God's Word, and divine protection, leading to praise.

Lecture support: Weaver states: 'Yea, I have a goodly heritage... We have the heritage of those that fear His name... the heritage of the Word of God... the heritage of His sovereign protection.'

God's counsel draws believers to Christ

The Father teaches and draws people to Christ, enabling them to come willingly.

Lecture support: Weaver cites John 6:44-45: 'No man can come unto me except the Father who has sent me draw him... they shall all be taught of God.'

Christians must abhor idolatry and remain faithful

Idolatry is treason against God, and believers must refuse to compromise their fidelity to Christ.

Lecture support: Weaver applies: 'We need to learn to abhor idolatry... we must determine in our hearts that we're going to stay true to Him regardless of the circumstances.'

Scripture References

Psalm 16:1-7

The primary text of the sermon, read at the beginning.

Hebrews 2:10-17

Used to show that everything Christ did was for His people's benefit.

Malachi 1:13

Illustrates Israel's weariness with God's service.

Galatians 6:9

Encouragement not to be weary in well-doing.

Proverbs 3:11

Warning not to be weary of God's correction.

Isaiah 44:9-20

Describes the futility and foolishness of idolatry.

Ephesians 5:5

Shows that covetousness is idolatry.

Colossians 3:5

Reinforces that covetousness is idolatry.

Philippians 3:19

Quoted to show that some make their belly their god.

Jeremiah 2:13

Illustrates the inherent curse of forsaking God, the fountain of living waters.

Deuteronomy 27:15

Declares a curse on those who make graven images.

Jeremiah 11:3

Curses those who do not obey God's covenant.

Jeremiah 17:5

Curses those who trust in man rather than God.

Proverbs 8:35-36

Contrasts finding life in God with loving death by sinning against Him.

Psalm 139:21-24

David's perfect hatred for God's enemies and his prayer for self-examination.

2 Timothy 4:10

Demas forsook Paul, having loved this present world.

2 Corinthians 11:2

Believers are espoused to Christ as a chaste virgin.

Numbers 18:20

The Lord is the inheritance of the Levitical priests.

Deuteronomy 18:1-2

Reiterates that the Lord is the Levites' inheritance.

Romans 8:16-17

Believers are heirs of God and joint-heirs with Christ.

Discussion Questions

1. In what ways might modern Christians be guilty of 'hastening after another god' without realizing it?

Consider: Weaver broadens idolatry to include covetousness and self-will.

2. How does understanding God as our 'portion' and 'inheritance' change our perspective on material possessions and life circumstances?

Consider: Weaver explains that the Lord is our portion, like the Levitical priests.

3. What does it mean practically that God 'maintains our lot'? How have you experienced this in your life?

Consider: Weaver discusses God's responsibility for our upkeep and preservation.

4. Why is it important to recognize that idolatry is not just worshiping images but also includes covetousness and self-will?

Consider: Weaver uses Ephesians 5:5 and Colossians 3:5 to show covetousness is idolatry.

5. How can we cultivate a contentment of trust in God, especially when we feel weary or discouraged?

Consider: Weaver introduces the theme of contentment of trust and warns against weariness.

6. In what ways does the 'goodly heritage' of believers (saints, Scripture, protection) encourage you to remain faithful?

Consider: Weaver lists the heritage of those who fear God, His Word, and His protection.

7. How does the Father's drawing and teaching (John 6:44-45) give us confidence in our salvation and perseverance?

Consider: Weaver explains that God's counsel draws us to Christ.

8. What are some practical ways we can 'abhor idolatry' in our daily lives and remain faithful to Christ?

Consider: Weaver's first application is to abhor idolatry as treason.

Applications

Abhor Idolatry

Recognize that idolatry is not just image worship but any departure from God's will, and treat it as treason against God.

Lecture support: Weaver states: 'We need to learn to abhor idolatry, as did David and as did Christ... Idolatry is not simply another choice. It is wickedness.'

Remain Faithful to Christ

Determine to stay true to Christ regardless of circumstances, refusing to compromise faithfulness.

Lecture support: Weaver says: 'Those of us who know the Lord Jesus Christ savingly, we must determine in our hearts that we're going to stay true to Him regardless of the circumstances.'

Find Contentment in God as Your Portion

Be satisfied with God as your inheritance, recognizing that He maintains your lot and gives a goodly heritage.

Lecture support: Weaver explains: 'The Lord is the portion of mine inheritance... Thou maintainest my lot... Yea, I have a goodly heritage.'

Praise God for His Counsel

Acknowledge that everything we have is due to God's grace and counsel, and give Him praise.

Lecture support: Weaver says: 'I will bless the Lord who has given me counsel... Everything I have, I've come to possess by God's grace and God's mercy.'

Do Not Grow Weary of God

Guard against weariness in serving God, and remain diligent in biblical worship and living.

Lecture support: Weaver warns: 'We have a propensity, since we're sinners, to grow weary of God... Let us not be weary in well-doing.'

Personal Application and Notes

Which application will you work on, and what specific step will you take?

What Scripture or teaching will you return to as you put this into practice?

Additional notes or questions to discuss

LESSON 3

Pastor John Weaver - Psalm 16 The Golden Psalm

Part Three of Four

January 26, 2012

Read Chapter 3 in the companion book, pages 45-61.

Major Themes

Confidence of Trust in God

The believer's trust in God produces unwavering confidence, modeled by David and perfectly by Christ, who set the Lord always before them.

Lecture support: Weaver states, 'Today we come to the third point, and that is the confidence of trust. I'm only going to deal with verse eight today.'

Christ as the Ultimate Example

Psalm 16:8 applies primarily to Jesus Christ, who perfectly kept the Father before His eyes and was not moved by any trial or temptation.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'Now we must remember that this verse applies directly to Jesus Christ. Yes, there's an application that you can make to David, but this verse has reference to the greater David, the Lord Jesus Christ.'

Constant Focus on God

Setting the Lord always before us means continuous, unwavering focus on God, not serving Him with fits and starts, like plowing a straight row by fixing eyes on a stationary object.

Lecture support: Weaver illustrates, 'You put the tractor or the mule in the edge of the field. And you look up to the end of the field and pick out a post or a tree or some object that does not move. And you keep your eye upon that object until you get to the end of the field.'

God's Protective Presence

The phrase 'He is at my right hand' signifies God's support, comfort, and safeguard, assuring deliverance and protection from evil.

Lecture support: Weaver explains, 'The right hand is not only a place of support and comfort, it is also a place of safeguard.'

Perseverance and Faithfulness

Believers must remain faithful to the end, never giving up or compromising, because they are more than conquerors through Christ who has already won the victory.

Lecture support: Weaver exhorts, 'We must learn to never give up, never give in, never quit, never compromise, never be discouraged, never be depressed. Why? We are not victims, we are the victor.'

Obedience to God's Revealed Will

Knowing God's will through Scripture is essential, but doing it is what brings blessing; believers must conform their lives to the Word of God.

Lecture support: Weaver states, 'It's not just knowing the will of God that is important. It is doing the will of God.'

Fearlessness in the Face of Opposition

Believers should not be intimidated by the world, flesh, or devil, because God has not given a spirit of fear, and Christ modeled boldness when opposed.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'If God has not given us a spirit of fear, then we have to ask the question, from where does fear arrive? ... The only places left are the world, the flesh, and the devil.'

Key Arguments

Psalm 16:8 is Messianic

The verse applies directly to Jesus Christ, as confirmed by Peter's quotation in Acts 2:25, where Christ is said to have foreseen the Lord always before His face.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'Now we must remember that this verse applies directly to Jesus Christ... For David speaketh concerning Him, that is concerning Christ. And then here verse eight is quoted.'

Setting the Lord Before Us Means Constant Devotion

The Hebrew word implies a fixed, continuous gaze, not intermittent service; both David and Christ served God without deviation.

Lecture support: Weaver explains, 'It means they did not serve Him with fits and feelings, stops and starts, up and down. No, no. Their service was constant and continuous.'

Christ's Unwavering Obedience

Jesus always sought the Father's will (John 5:30) and always did what pleased Him (John 8:29), even in the face of temptation and suffering.

Lecture support: Weaver cites John 5:30 and John 8:29, then says, 'He never deviated. He never took His eyes from the Lord.'

The Right Hand Signifies Divine Assistance

Being at the right hand means God is present to protect, support, and deliver, as seen in Psalms 109:31 and 121:5.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'He shall stand at the right hand of the poor. Why? To save him.'

Christ Was Not Moved by Suffering

Isaiah 50:5-9 shows Christ set His face like flint, enduring beating, mocking, and spitting, trusting in God's help and not being confounded.

Lecture support: Weaver reads Isaiah 50:6-7 and comments, 'In all of His difficulties, He was not moved. Nothing deterred Him from His task.'

Believers Must Keep Their Eyes on Christ

Like Moses who endured as seeing Him who is invisible (Hebrews 11:27), Christians must fix their eyes on Christ alone, not on the world's allurements.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'We need to look only at Jesus Christ. He is the covering to our eyes.'

Doing God's Will Requires Obedience to Scripture

God has revealed everything necessary for life and godliness in the Bible (Deuteronomy 29:29), and blessing comes from doing, not just hearing (James 1:22-25).

Lecture support: Weaver states, 'God has revealed everything that we need to know in this book. And He revealed it so that we may do it.'

Fear Is Not from God

2 Timothy 1:7 says God gives a spirit of power, love, and a sound mind, not fear; therefore, fear comes from the world, flesh, or devil, and believers should not be intimidated.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'If God has not given us a spirit of fear, then we have to ask the question, from where does fear arrive? ... The only places left are the world, the flesh, and the devil.'

Scripture References

Psalm 16:1-8

The primary text of the sermon; Weaver reads and expounds these verses, focusing on verse 8.

Acts 2:25

Peter applies Psalm 16:8 directly to Christ, showing He foresaw the Lord always before His face.

Luke 9:62

Jesus said no one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God, illustrating unwavering focus.

Colossians 3:2

Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth, paralleling the call to fix eyes on God.

John 5:30

Jesus said He can do nothing of Himself but seeks the will of the Father who sent Him.

John 8:29

Jesus said the Father has not left Him alone because He always does what pleases Him.

Hebrews 11:6

Without faith it is impossible to please God; those who come to Him must believe He is and rewards those who diligently seek Him.

Isaiah 26:8-9

The desire of the soul is to God's name and remembrance; seeking Him early and in the night.

Psalm 109:31

God stands at the right hand of the poor to save him from those who condemn his soul.

Psalm 121:5-8

The Lord is your keeper and shade at your right hand, preserving you from all evil.

Psalm 62:2, 6

God is my rock and salvation; I shall not be moved (or greatly moved).

Isaiah 42:4

Christ shall not fail nor be discouraged till He sets judgment in the earth.

Isaiah 50:5-9

Christ's obedience and suffering; He set His face like flint, knowing God would help Him.

Hebrews 11:27

Moses forsook Egypt, not fearing the king's wrath, for he endured as seeing Him who is invisible.

Genesis 3:5-6

The first sin involved the eyes; Eve saw the tree was pleasant and took the fruit.

1 John 2:16

The lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes, and pride of life are of the world, not the Father.

Acts 28:27

People have closed their eyes lest they see and be converted; they do not want to see.

Revelation 3:17-18

The Laodicean church is blind and needs eyesalve to see, though they think they are rich.

Deuteronomy 29:29

Secret things belong to God, but revealed things belong to us so we may do all the words of the law.

2 Timothy 1:7

God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power, love, and a sound mind.

Discussion Questions

1. What does it mean practically to 'set the Lord always before me' in daily life?

Consider: Weaver explains that it means constant focus on God, not serving Him with fits and starts.

2. How does Christ's example of always doing what pleases the Father (John 8:29) challenge our own obedience?

Consider: Weaver highlights Christ's unwavering devotion and asks if we can truthfully say the same.

3. In what ways are we tempted to take our eyes off the Lord, and how can we resist?

Consider: Weaver discusses the lust of the eyes and the world's distractions, using Eve's temptation as an example.

4. Why is it important not only to know God's will but to do it, and what hinders us from doing so?

Consider: Weaver emphasizes that blessing comes from doing, not just hearing, and warns against being hearers only.

5. What fears or intimidations from the world, flesh, or devil most affect you, and how does 2 Timothy 1:7 address them?

Consider: Weaver argues that fear does not come from God and challenges believers to identify sources of fear.

6. How can we cultivate the kind of perseverance that remains faithful 'unto the end' despite trials?

Consider: Weaver cites multiple Hebrews and Revelation passages about holding fast and overcoming.

7. What does it mean to be 'more than conquerors' in Christ, and how should that shape our response to difficulties?

Consider: Weaver concludes that believers have already won because Christ is risen and reigning.

Applications

Fix Your Eyes on Christ Alone

Believers must set Christ before their eyes as the object of faith, hope, and imitation, not looking to the world or self.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'We need to look only at Jesus Christ. He is the covering to our eyes.'

Obey God's Revealed Will

Christians should diligently study Scripture to know God's will and then actively obey it, not merely hear it.

Lecture support: Weaver states, 'It's not just knowing the will of God that is important. It is doing the will of God.'

Reject Fear and Intimidation

Since God gives a spirit of power, love, and a sound mind, believers must refuse to be intimidated by opposition, criticism, or threats.

Lecture support: Weaver asks, 'Why should we be intimidated by all of that which is going to perish and be destroyed when we have the sovereign, omnipotent, eternal God at our right hand?'

Persevere in Faithfulness

Believers are called to never give up, compromise, or be discouraged, but to remain faithful until death, trusting in ultimate victory.

Lecture support: Weaver exhorts, 'We must learn to never give up, never give in, never quit, never compromise, never be discouraged, never be depressed.'

Cultivate Constant Awareness of God's Presence

Like David and Christ, believers should maintain a continuous consciousness of God's nearness, especially in times of trouble.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'When we set the Lord before us always, He will continually be in our mind.'

Personal Application and Notes

Which application will you work on, and what specific step will you take?

What Scripture or teaching will you return to as you put this into practice?

Additional notes or questions to discuss

LESSON 4

Pastor John Weaver - Psalm 16 The Golden Psalm

Part Four of Four

January 26, 2012

Read Chapter 4 in the companion book, pages 63-81.

Major Themes

Christ's Joy in Suffering

Christ rejoiced in fulfilling the Father's will through His death, demonstrating that true joy is possible even in the most dire circumstances.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoiceth... David was writing about our Lord's crucifixion and death.' He cites Hebrews 12:2: 'who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross.'

Biblical Hope as Certainty

Hope in Scripture is not wishful thinking but a sure and steadfast anchor, grounded in God's promises and power.

Lecture support: Weaver explains, 'When the scripture uses the word hope, it never means maybe... it is that which is most definite, that which is absolutely assured.' He references Hebrews 6:18-19.

The Resurrection of Christ as the Guarantee of Believers' Resurrection

Because Christ was raised, believers will also be raised. Our union with Christ ensures our resurrection is as certain as His.

Lecture support: Weaver states, 'Just as surely as God the Father raised Jesus Christ from the dead, just that surely He will raise His own people from the dead.' He cites 1 Corinthians 15:20-23.

Christ as the Forerunner

Christ has gone before us through death and resurrection, marking the path of life and ensuring our safe passage.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'He's the first begotten from the dead... Jesus Christ has already trod the trail and marked out the path for us.' He references Hebrews 6:19-20.

Eternal Joy and Pleasure in God's Presence

The ultimate outcome of Christ's work is eternal, incomprehensible joy and pleasure at God's right hand for His people.

Lecture support: Weaver comments on Psalm 16:11: 'At thy right hand there are pleasures forevermore... you cannot even conceive of the joy and the pleasure that God can give His people.'

Key Arguments

Christ's gladness in death proves His confidence in the Father's promise of resurrection.

Christ's heart was glad because He trusted the Father to raise Him, showing that faith produces joy even in suffering.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoiceth... David was writing about our Lord's crucifixion and death.' He connects this to Hebrews 12:2.

Biblical hope is absolute certainty, not uncertainty.

The word 'hope' in Scripture refers to a sure and steadfast anchor, as defined in Hebrews 6:19, not a mere wish.

Lecture support: Weaver contrasts common usage with biblical usage: 'When the scripture uses the word hope, it never means maybe... it is an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast.'

Psalm 16:10 refers exclusively to Christ's resurrection, not David's.

Peter and Paul in Acts argue that David died and saw corruption, so the psalm must prophesy Christ, who did not see corruption.

Lecture support: Weaver reads Acts 2:29-31 and Acts 13:35-37, noting, 'David died and his sepulcher is with us unto this day... he saw corruption. But David wasn't speaking of himself... He was speaking of Christ.'

The Father's raising of Christ is the basis for our resurrection hope.

Multiple New Testament texts attribute the resurrection to God the Father, demonstrating His faithfulness to His promise, which extends to believers.

Lecture support: Weaver cites Acts 3:15, 4:10, 13:30, 17:31, Romans 1:4, Ephesians 1:20, 1 Thessalonians 1:10, 1 Peter 1:3, 21.

Union with Christ guarantees our resurrection.

Because believers are united with Christ in His death and resurrection, His resurrection is the firstfruits and guarantee of ours.

Lecture support: Weaver explains, 'When He died, we died... When He was raised from the dead, we were raised from the dead.' He cites 1 Corinthians 15:20-23 and Ephesians 2:4-6.

Christ as forerunner has opened the path of life for us.

Christ has gone before us through death and resurrection, so we need not fear death; He will lead us safely.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'He's the first begotten from the dead... Jesus Christ has already trod the trail and marked out the path for us.' He references Hebrews 6:19-20.

Scripture References

Psalm 16:1-11

The entire psalm is read as the text for the sermon.

Luke 10:21

Cited to show that Jesus rejoiced in spirit, demonstrating His joy in the Father.

1 Thessalonians 5:16

Quoted to command believers to rejoice evermore.

Philippians 4:4

Quoted to command believers to rejoice in the Lord always.

Psalm 118:22-24

Explained as referring to Christ's rejection and death, the day of crucifixion being the day the Lord made for rejoicing.

Isaiah 53:10-11

Shown to indicate that it pleased the Lord to bruise Christ, and Christ shall see the travail of His soul and be satisfied.

Hebrews 12:2

Quoted to show Christ endured the cross for the joy set before Him, connecting to Psalm 16:9.

Acts 2:25-28

Peter's sermon applying Psalm 16 to Christ's resurrection, showing David spoke of Christ.

Revelation 14:13

Cited to show death is pictured as rest for believers.

Hebrews 6:18-20

Used to define hope as an anchor sure and steadfast, and Christ as our forerunner.

Genesis 22:1-5

Abraham's test to offer Isaac, illustrating faith in resurrection.

Hebrews 11:17-19

Explains Abraham's faith that God could raise Isaac from the dead, a type of Christ.

Romans 4:21

Quoted to show Abraham was fully persuaded God could perform what He promised.

Acts 2:29-36

Peter's conclusion that David's psalm refers to Christ's resurrection, not David's.

Acts 13:32-37

Paul's sermon applying Psalm 16 to Christ, who saw no corruption.

Acts 3:15; 4:10; 10:41; 13:30,34; 17:31; 26:23

Multiple verses cited to show God the Father raised Christ from the dead.

Romans 1:4; Ephesians 1:20; 1 Thessalonians 1:10; 1 Peter 1:3,21

Additional verses attributing Christ's resurrection to God the Father.

1 Corinthians 15:12-20

Paul's argument that if Christ is not raised, faith is vain; but Christ is risen as firstfruits.

Romans 6:5,8; 2 Timothy 2:11

Quoted to show union with Christ in death and resurrection guarantees our resurrection.

Ephesians 2:4-7

Shown to demonstrate believers' spiritual union with Christ in resurrection and seating in heavenly places.

Study notes

Discussion Questions

1. How does Christ's joy in facing the cross challenge our typical responses to suffering and inconvenience?

Consider: Weaver contrasts Christ's gladness in death with our complaining when things don't go our way.

2. What is the biblical definition of hope, and how does it differ from the common use of the word?

Consider: Weaver explains that biblical hope is a sure and steadfast anchor, not uncertainty.

3. Why is it significant that the New Testament attributes Christ's resurrection primarily to God the Father?

Consider: Weaver emphasizes the Father's faithfulness to His promise to the Son as the basis for our hope.

4. How does our union with Christ guarantee our resurrection?

Consider: Weaver explains federal headship and union with Christ, citing Romans 6 and Ephesians 2.

5. What does it mean that Christ is our 'forerunner' in death and resurrection?

Consider: Weaver uses Hebrews 6:19-20 to show Christ has gone before us, marking the path of life.

6. How can meditating on eternal joy and pleasures at God's right hand change our perspective on current trials?

Consider: Weaver applies Psalm 16:11 and 2 Corinthians 4:17-18 to encourage focus on eternal glory.

Applications

Rejoice in suffering as Christ did.

Believers should learn to rejoice in the will of God, even in suffering, because Christ rejoiced in His suffering for us.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'If we understand this principle, it could teach us to rejoice in our sufferings... whatever God brings upon us... it is for our good and His glory, and we should learn to rejoice in it.'

Set the Lord always before you.

Keep Christ as your focus, chief good, and highest end, just as Christ set the Father before Him.

Lecture support: Weaver states, 'It is the wisdom of God that we always set Jesus Christ before us... We're to keep Him as our focus, as our chief good.'

Rest in the sure hope of resurrection.

Face death with confidence, knowing that your flesh rests in hope because Christ's resurrection guarantees yours.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'As a Christian, we have to understand, like Christ, our flesh must rest in hope... Because Christ lives, we shall live.'

Focus on eternal joy rather than temporary affliction.

View present sufferings as light and momentary compared to the eternal weight of glory awaiting believers.

Lecture support: Weaver quotes 2 Corinthians 4:17-18 and says, 'don't concentrate on your light affliction. Concentrate on the eternal joy and pleasure.'

Study notes

Personal Application and Notes

Which application will you work on, and what specific step will you take?

What Scripture or teaching will you return to as you put this into practice?

Additional notes or questions to discuss

Online Lecture Resources

Scan a code or select the lecture link in the PDF. The original lecture identifiers and destinations are preserved.

Lesson 1: Pastor John Weaver - Psalm 16 The Golden Psalm - Part One of Four

Lecture JW01191

Open the formatted lecture online

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Lesson 2: Pastor John Weaver - Psalm 16 The Golden Psalm - Part Two of Four

Lecture JW01192

Open the formatted lecture online

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Lesson 3: Pastor John Weaver - Psalm 16 The Golden Psalm - Part Three of Four

Lecture JW01193

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Lesson 4: Pastor John Weaver - Psalm 16 The Golden Psalm - Part Four of Four

Lecture JW01194

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Source information

Study material: existing Major Themes, Key Arguments, Scripture References, Discussion Questions, and Applications from the corresponding Weaver Bible College lecture records. Original lecture titles and provenance are retained in those source records.

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