

Psalm 14: The Fool.

1. (1-4) The God-denying (in his heart) man is a **fool**. There are many powerful arguments for the existence of God; among them are these:

- *The Cosmological Argument*: The existence of the universe means there must be a creator God.
- *The Teleological Argument*: The existence of design in the universe means there must be a designer God.
- *The Anthropological Argument*: The unique nature and character of humanity means there must be a relational God.
- *The Moral Argument*: The existence of morality means there must be a governing God.

In denying and rejecting God is sinfulness; corrupt, turned away and bad.

Romans 3:23 - *for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.*

2. (5-7) God defends the **generation of the righteous**.

God lives with those who have accepted and received His justification, a place of refuge and David then hopes for the freedom of Israeli exiles, so they would rejoice. The ultimate salvation of Israel would be the coming of Jesus Christ.

Psalm 15: Who fellowships with God?

1. (1) Who can come to the tabernacle and the hill of God?

Who qualifies to communicate with God in the Tabernacle? The **Tabernacle** of God was the great tent of meeting that God told Moses and Israel to build for Him during the Exodus ([Exodus 25-31](#)) until Solomon built the Temple.

Since the **tabernacle** was the place where man met with God through the administration of the priests and sacrifice, David's longing to **abide in Your tabernacle** is actually a desire to **abide** in the presence of God.

2. (2-5) Those who qualify to fellowship with God; righteous, the truthful, the loving, the fair and the honest.

The New Covenant gives us a different ground for blessing and relationship with God: the finished work of Jesus Christ on the cross. Under the New Covenant, faith and not performance is basis for blessing.

The idea behind **shall never be moved** is that this righteous one will be a guest in the tent of God forever.

Hebrews 4:14 - Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Psalm 16: Committed To God.

1. (1-3) What David's soul said to the Lord.

The *tone* of this Psalm is not despair or complaint; it is settled joy. Despite his trouble, David had a praising confidence in his God. David knew that at his very best - all of his goodness - was **nothing** apart from God.

It's God who makes us good, not ourselves, apart from God, we're bad, filthy.

David proclaimed regarding God's people on this earth, "**They are the excellent ones, in whom is all my delight.**" David *delighted* in the people of God, despite all their failings, scandals, and embarrassments.

2. (4-6) The folly of idolatry and the blessing of honoring the LORD.

David understood that those who served other gods found many **sorrows** in life. David knew that his life, lived after God, was not an easy one. He experienced many hardships because he remained faithful to God. Nevertheless, he also knew that life lived after **another god** was even *more difficult*.

David was the youngest son in a family with many sons. He could expect no **inheritance** from his family; yet he took joy and comfort in the fact that God was **the portion** of his **inheritance**, and he knew that he had a **good inheritance**. The **lines** that marked out his inheritance had **fallen** to him **in pleasant places**.

3. (7-11) The benefits of guidance and security.

The false gods of the nations could never give **counsel** the way the LORD gave it to David. When David needed guidance, God gave it to him, and therefore David praised God.

David continued to describe the benefits of his decision to *set the LORD always before* him. This decision brought *gladness* and a *beauty* to David's life.

With these words David seemed to understand that the benefits of this life commitment to God were received in both this life, and the life beyond.

The **path of life** is something enjoyed by the believer both now, and in eternity. God gives us eternal life to enjoy as a present gift, extending into eternity.

John 14:6 - *Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.*

This was a joy David could experience now (in the context of his previously mentioned gladness and rejoicing), but also ultimately receive when in the more immediate **presence** of God.

Numbers 18:20 - *Then the LORD said to Aaron: "You shall have no inheritance in their land, nor shall you have any portion among them; I am your portion and your inheritance among the children of Israel.*

Ephesus 1:11 - *In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will,*

David had full confidence that his life with God - both now and **forevermore** - would be marked by the highest and best **pleasures**. This is life lived above shallow entertainments and excitements.

The right hand, is the place of favor, and the place of honor and security. This tells that both in this life and the life beyond, true **pleasures forevermore** are found at the **right hand** of God, not in separation from Him.

Romans 14:17 - *for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.*