

Take Refuge in Christ

Title: Take Refuge In Christ

Theme: Refuge and security for eternity can be found only in Christ.

Text: Psalm 16

Reading:

Benediction: Hebrews 13:20-21

- I. **(SLIDE 1)** Introduction
 - A. We have only two choices in life that last an eternity
 1. to follow Christ
 2. or not to follow Christ
 - B. Our choice either brings refuge or rejection
- II. **(SLIDES 2-4)** Read Text
- III. **(SLIDE 5)** Christ Centered
 - A. Psalm 16
 - B. Messianic
- IV. **(SLIDE 6)** Safety and Refuge
 - A. No sense of distress in the Psalm
 - B. A plea for continued security.
- C. The Psalmist is laying claim to a promise and refuge the he can only find in God through the person and work of Christ.
- D. **(SLIDE 7)** Hebrews 6:16
 1. We stand firm in our faith because of our unchangeable God.
 2. In whom we place all of our hope upon our faith in the work and faithfulness of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
 3. It is in this that we stand firm and secure.
 4. It is in this that our Psalmist seeks refuge.
- V. **(SLIDE 8)** Profession of Faith
 - A. An extension of the phrase “in you I take refuge.”
 - B. A towering profession of faith in Yahweh, Yahweh is the Psalmists’ “highest good.”
- VI. **(SLIDE 9)** Refusal to Worship Other Gods
 - A. Two ways of interpreting verse 3
 1. Saints - believers
 2. Saints - Unusual Hebrew word, not used of worshippers of Yahweh, but of pagan deities.
 3. Delight - negative contrast to verses 1 & 2
 4. Our heart has an unfortunate tendency to chase after false Gods from whom we must seek refuge and safety in Christ.

Take Refuge in Christ

B. (SLIDE 10) Their sorrows will increase

1. Those who chase after false gods will have their sorrows increased.
2. Sorrows - we think emotional.
 - a) (SLIDE 11) used in Job 2:7 as loathsome sores
 - b) typically a physical ailment
3. (SLIDE 12) eternal punishment not only spiritually separated from Christ but physically tormented as well.

C. (SLIDE 13) I Will Not . . .

1. I Will not . . . libations of blood in pagan sacrifice
2. (SLIDE 14) God commands not to partake in this way
3. (SLIDE 15) I will not . . . take up their names (worship)
4. (SLIDE 16) Yahweh is our portion and our cup
 - a) Fulfillment in Communion
 - b) As we experience grace in the sacrifice of Christ and in the continuing filling of grace through Communion we come to a greater understanding by that grace of the security in which we stand.

D. (SLIDE 17) Commitment to Yahweh

1. We rest assured in the promises of God

2. And the inheritance that he has promised.

- a) (SLIDE 18) Our inheritance is sealed by the Holy Spirit
 - b) (SLIDE 19) We have been sealed by the Holy Spirit as heirs of God and co-heirs of Christ.
3. (SLIDE 20) The promises of God should lead us to praise and blessing of God.
 - a) as our counselor who leads us
 - b) every waking hour of our lives
 4. (SLIDE 21) Yahweh is our guide
 - a) as the one before us Christ is the one who leads us to our ultimate destination
 - b) We will not be shaken because it is Christ who walks with us at our right hand.
 - c) (SLIDE 22) There is none who can shake use from the course God has called us.
 - d) As much Satan himself may condemn us, God declares us righteous in Christ and nothing can affect that not even our own unrighteousness.

E. (SLIDE 23) Confidence and Joy in Yahweh

1. Because of the secure foundation, the Psalmist sings out with a glad heart and a joyful tongue.

Take Refuge in Christ

2. He sings joyously because he knows that not only is his soul secure in the hand of God but his physical body as well.

3. **(SLIDE 24)** Your Holy One

- a) David knew that His Messiah would live eternally
- b) And even though he may die that God would raise him from the dead just as God fulfilled with Christ.

4. **(SLIDE 25)** The Path of Life

- a) The path the David speaks is an eternity with Christ.
 - (1) We will be filled with joy in the presence of Christ
 - (2) Vs. 8 Christ is the one who goes before and leads us at our right hand.
 - (3) In eternity with Christ we will be filled with eternal pleasures at the right hand of Christ our Lord.

VII. **(SLIDE 26)** Application

A. Do we rest secure?

- 1. We do we find our security?
 - a) In ourselves
 - b) In others
 - c) In things of this world

d) Or in Christ alone

2. Charles Wesley, "Forth in thy Name" in the final phrase - "And closely walk with Thee to heaven. May we too discover and acknowledge God as our right hand - joy, pleasure, cup, and portion - as we journey through this life *with* him and *to* him."