

FROM RAGS TO ETERNAL RICHES

What do you want out of life? You could ask a hundred people and get a variety of answers. Many are chasing after wealth thinking that's what will give them security. Some might desire comfort and ease - they don't want it all as long as what they do get comes easily. Others appreciate the things which are most convenient.

Not only do we need to ask ourselves what we want out of life, we also need to ask ourselves where do we think they come from and who or what will guarantee them for me. In other words, the thing that I believe will benefit me most is probably where my loyalty will be given. Some rely on government (or certain parties or politicians). Some give their full allegiance to their company. Some will make their physical family their ultimate source of security.

Scripture shows us that there is more to life than these things. There is a Person who created everything and made us in his image. He chose to partner with humanity so that we could rule and reign over his creation with him. He gave the first people everything they needed and every good and perfect gift ultimately comes from him.

Yet, not everyone recognizes God's sovereignty. In Psalm 16, David describes the blessings that come from trusting in the LORD and compares them to the sorrows of those who run after other gods. In verses 1-4, he shows the contrast between those who recognize the LORD as their master and those who barter their allegiances to the gods of this world.

When we are faithfully devoted to the LORD, he will bless us as he sees fit. David understood this and acknowledges the LORD as the one who provided him with food, drink, security, possessions, and inheritance (5-6).

That causes David to praise the LORD for all that he has done (7-8). But David doesn't stop there. Knowing that God's promises are even stronger than death itself, he prophetically speaks of God's eternal faithfulness and the eternal joy that will be experienced in God's presence forever (9-11).

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