

Reading Through Psalm - My Thoughts and Comments

Psalm 16:7-8; 17:6-7

New International Version

I will praise the Lord who counsels me; even at night my heart instructs me. I have set the Lord always before me. Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken.

The Message

The wise counsel God gives when I'm awake is confirmed by my sleeping heart. Day and night I'll stick with God; I've got a good thing going and I'm not letting go.

A counselor is someone who gives advice and, ideally, **good** advice! Counselors are expected to know a lot and impart that knowledge or wisdom on those who are seeking counsel - those who need help with a serious matter. School counselors (or guidance counselors) help students plan their courses, administer tests, and advise the students on their academic needs and requirements. God offers a counselor to us, the Holy Spirit, who knows about you and is able to guide. When you receive Christ as Lord, the Spirit has already begun to work in your life and is helping you become Christ-minded (or like the character of Jesus). Though many may offer advice, whether you ask for it or not, let God be your final source for guidance through the Holy Spirit...and you will find the right way.

I call on you, O God, for you will answer me; give ear to me and hear my prayer. Show the wonder of your great love, you who save by your right hand those who take refuge in you from their foes.

I call to you, God, because I'm sure of an answer. So—answer! Bend your ear! Listen sharp! Paint grace-graffiti on the fences; take in your frightened children who are running from the neighborhood bullies straight to you.

Being at "your right hand" is being with you, God is with you, always; **however, you must want to be with God.** When you pray as a believer, God is certain to hear your prayers; he promises to hear your prayers and to answer in keeping with his will and purpose. His answer may not always be clear or what we desire; yet, his purpose is still being worked-out in your life for his glory. Above the uncertainty or lack of understanding the answer,

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we are called to trust by faith in Jesus who promises to love and to keep us. When we call on *God*, he answers; **when he makes a promise, God fulfills it**; and when he tells us he loves us, *God* means it with total commitment forever.

God is great; *God* is good, let us thank him for...

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