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JEWISH APOLOGETICS (102)
<http://www.fbcweb.org/Doctrines/Jewish-Apologetics-102.pdf>

Objection #86: Psalm 16 does not speak of the resurrection of the Messiah.

Brown's short response to this objection:

According to the biblical record, Psalm 16 is a psalm of David, in which he expresses his confidence that he will be delivered from death and will not rot in the grave. But since David did, in fact, ultimately die and see physical corruption, the New Testament learns from this that he was speaking prophetically about his greatest descendant, the Messiah, who would actually be resurrected from the grave.¹

After Brown demonstrates that even ancient rabbis understood that David was talking about his body not dying and then decomposing, he adds

he looked into the future and saw himself supernaturally preserved from death and decay (as suggested by some of the rabbis, as we have read), but what he was actually seeing was not his own deliverance from death (in reality, resurrection) but rather that of his progeny, the Messiah. . . . It is therefore, totally logical from a biblical standpoint that David, a prophet of God inspired by the Spirit, actually foresaw the resurrection of the Messiah as he pondered his own future hope. The New Testament application of this very to Yeshua's resurrection is fitting and appropriate, not twisting the force of the original but rather gleaning an important insight from the text. We do well to take this interpretation seriously, especially since David's prophetic hope was *not* fulfilled in his life but rather in the life of his greater son, the Messiah.²

Apostle Peter pointed to the very tomb of David in his sermon:

Acts 2:29 "Brethren, I may confidently say to you regarding the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day.³⁰ "And so, because he was a prophet, and knew that God had sworn to him with an oath to seat *one* of his descendants upon his throne,³¹ he looked ahead and spoke of the resurrection of the Christ, that He was neither abandoned to Hades, nor did His flesh suffer decay.³² "This Jesus God raised up again, to which we are all witnesses.

¹Michael L. Brown, *Messianic Prophecy Objections —Volume 3*, (Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2003), 114-17. In his book, Brown lists the objection and then gives a short response which is followed by a more developed response. This DDR series, for the most part, tracks the objection and his *short* response after which you will find my comments. I highly recommend his book if you are interested in his longer responses (there is far too much material to include in this series.

²Ibid, 117.

There is a tremendous controversy as to the original site of David's tomb. However, regardless of the location of the tomb, one thing is quite clear: David is not walking around in his resurrected body in Jerusalem or anywhere else on earth. The Old Testament believers will not be resurrected until the millennium. Neither David nor anyone else has been resurrection. The one exception is Jesus Christ. Ergo, David must have seen the resurrection of Jesus Christ (David's body has long since returned to dust). Although, I do not believe the following is the tomb of David, the fact is that David's body has decayed which in fact is recognized by all. No one today claims that David's body did not see decay.



In Christ Alone,

Paster Don