**Jesus is Our Deliverer**

**by Pastor Fee Soliven**

**Psalm 18:1-6**

**Sunday Morning**

**July 21, 2024**

**Psalm 18:1-6**

1 I will love You, O LORD, my strength. 2 The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; My God, my strength, in whom I will trust; My shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold. 3 I will call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised; So shall I be saved from my enemies.

4 The pangs of death surrounded me, And the floods of ungodliness made me afraid. 5 The sorrows of Sheol surrounded me; The snares of death confronted me. 6 In my distress I called upon the LORD, And cried out to my God; He heard my voice from His temple, And my cry came before Him, even to His ears.

Saints, Psalm 18 is more than an eloquent expression on David's part.

It is more than the use of brilliant metaphors by a psalmist living about 1,000 years before Christ. David used terms that were expressive of his own experiences in God.

In times of extreme danger he called out to God for help, and the Lord wonderfully delivered him.

When we find ourselves in deep distress, we also can look to the Lord for deliverance as we lift our voices in praise and adoration.

Our spiritual experiences and individual struggles have been foreshadowed by those of David. His emotions have become our emotions, and his God has become our God.

**David's Declaration**

**1. David's Love for God**

What made David great? Was it superior intelligence? Was it military prowess? Was it a pleasant personality? Perhaps Psalm 18:35 answers the question as well as any other portion of Scripture. David exclaimed to God,

**Psalm 18:35-36**

35 You have also given me the shield of Your salvation; Your right hand has held me up, Your gentleness has made me great. 36 You enlarged my path under me; So my feet did not slip.

**2 Samuel 5:9-10**

9 Then David dwelt in the stronghold, and called it the City of David. And David built all around from the Millo and inward. 10 So David went on and became great, and the LORD God of hosts was with him.

Saints, it is the presence of God that distinguishes a life and makes it truly renowned. Only the Lord's anointing can make an individual rise to the highest levels of spiritual prominence. The Lord, speaking through Nathan the prophet, reminded David...

**2 Samuel 7:9-11**

9 And I have been with you wherever you have gone, and have cut off all your enemies from before you, and have made you a great name, like the name of the great men who are on the earth.

10 Moreover I will appoint a place for My people Israel, and will plant them, that they may dwell in a place of their own and move no more; nor shall the sons of wickedness oppress them anymore, as previously,

11 since the time that I commanded judges to be over My people Israel, and have caused you to rest from all your enemies. Also the LORD tells you that He will make you a house.

**2. God Is My Rock**

Saints, the landscape in the wilderness of Engedi, where David spent many days as a fugitive, is covered with yellow, chalky sand and huge wave-like rock formations. Perhaps it was this scene that inspired David to sing...

**Psalm 18:1-2**

1 I will love You, O LORD, my strength. 2 The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; My God, my strength, in whom I will trust; My shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

David had come to realize that only God could be his defense. A rock was a place of protection from the attacks of an enemy. What an impressive, descriptive figure of speech David used! Our God is a rock. His strength is unchanging and impenetrable. Only He can protect us from the enemy of our souls. He alone is the believer's strength and security.

**Psalm 61:2**

"From the end of the earth I will cry to You, When my heart is overwhelmed; Lead me to the rock that is higher than I."

**3. God Is My Fortress**

Saints, when David spoke of his fortress he was saying that God was his castle a type of defense. No mountain fortress could prove as strong as the Lord. There was no refuge as secure as God!

**Psalm 31:1-5**

1 In You, O LORD, I put my trust; Let me never be ashamed; Deliver me in Your righteousness. 2 Bow down Your ear to me, Deliver me speedily; Be my rock of refuge, A fortress of defense to save me. 3 For You are my rock and my fortress; Therefore, for Your name's sake, Lead me and guide me.

4 Pull me out of the net which they have secretly laid for me, For You are my strength. 5 Into Your hand I commit my spirit; You have redeemed me, O LORD God of truth.

**4. God Is My Deliverer**

Saints, the sweetest songs to our ears should be the songs of deliverance after we have been gloriously set free.

No one, no matter how talented, can praise God like those who have been delivered from sin's bondage. No university of music and no gifted instructor can teach a person how to praise God from the heart.

Notes sung under the inspiration of the Holy Ghost are unrivaled. They spring from a well of gratitude.

**Psalm 32:7-8**

7 You are my hiding place; You shall preserve me from trouble; You shall surround me with songs of deliverance. Selah 8 I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will guide you with My eye.

**5. God Is My God**

Saints, fervently David spoke of "my God." To him the Almighty was more than "the God of Israel" or even "the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob."

David wanted the world to know whom he loved and whom he served. He claimed the Lord as his own.

**Psalm 18:25-31**

25 With the merciful You will show Yourself merciful; With a blameless man You will show Yourself blameless; 26 With the pure You will show Yourself pure; And with the devious You will show Yourself shrewd. 27 For You will save the humble people, But will bring down haughty looks. 28 For You will light my lamp; The LORD my God will enlighten my darkness.

29 For by You I can run against a troop, By my God I can leap over a wall. 30 As for God, His way is perfect; The word of the LORD is proven; He is a shield to all who trust in Him. 31 For who is God, except the LORD? And who is a rock, except our God?

**David's Distress**

**1. Sorrows of Death**

Saints, hidden in some rocky crevice David probably watched his pursuers.

He saw their shields and spears glistening in the morning sun. He saw their campfires glowing under the evening stars.

He faced terror by night and peril by day such as that described

**Psalm 91:5-8**

5 You shall not be afraid of the terror by night, Nor of the arrow that flies by day, 6 Nor of the pestilence that walks in darkness, Nor of the destruction that lays waste at noonday. 7 A thousand may fall at your side, And ten thousand at your right hand; But it shall not come near you. 8 Only with your eyes shall you look, And see the reward of the wicked.

**2. The Sorrows of Hell**

**Psalm 18:4-6**

4 The pangs of death surrounded me, And the floods of ungodliness made me afraid. 5 The sorrows of Sheol surrounded me; The snares of death confronted me. 6 In my distress I called upon the LORD, And cried out to my God; He heard my voice from His temple, And my cry came before Him, even to His ears.

Saints, it seemed to David that he was being drawn into a pit. He was at the point of falling into the final trap, ending his life.

There was nothing he could do to save himself. He had no plan. Only God could spare him.

**3. The Snares Of Death**

Saints, King Saul was the aggressive enemy of David, and we too have a determined adversary.

The devil, the fowler of our souls, would certainly like to destroy us.

Although he entices us into the snare of sin and draws us into the pit of death, Christians should not be his prey.

**2 Timothy 2:25-26**

25 in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth, 26 and that they may come to their senses and escape the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to do his will.

**Psalm 124:6-8**

6 Blessed be the LORD, Who has not given us as prey to their teeth. 7 Our soul has escaped as a bird from the snare of the fowlers; The snare is broken, and we have escaped. 8 Our help is in the name of the LORD, Who made heaven and earth.

**David's Deliverance**

**1.** **Memory of Past Deliverance**

Saints, David cried, and God heard his cry. In graphic and poetic imagery the psalmist described the majesty and might of Jehovah.

God came to the rescue. Most important for David, he was set free from those things that had caused his distress.

Saints, David remembered the past victories that God did for him!

**Psalm 18:16-19**

16 He sent from above, He took me; He drew me out of many waters. 17 He delivered me from my strong enemy, From those who hated me, For they were too strong for me. 18 They confronted me in the day of my calamity, But the LORD was my support. 19 He also brought me out into a broad place; He delivered me because He delighted in me.

**2. Assurance of Present Deliverance**

Saints, God stands by us in every situation and provides the necessary strength to endure. In the midst of the most difficult trials in our wilderness experiences, He is our rock.

What about accidents that cripple us physically and problems that drain us emotionally? What about sickness and death?

**Romans 8:37-39**

37 Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. 38 For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, 39 nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**3. Hope of Future Deliverance**

Saints, the powerful interventions of God in the past gave David anticipation for the future. His God had wonderfully kept him.

David had escaped the paw of the bear and the jaws of the lion. He had been saved from the sword of Goliath and from the javelin of Saul.

In his realm of being King, David had been protected from enemies within and from enemies without. God's hand of deliverance and mercy had been on David.

In the future that hand would be both on David and his descendants. It also would be on the Messiah, David's seed, forever.

**In Closing:**

**Jeremiah 29:11-13**

1 For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope. 12 Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. 13 And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart.

Soon and Very soon, Jesus is about to appear, we are almost out of here!

**1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**

13 But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. 14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus.

15 For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. 16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.

17 Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. 18 Therefore comfort one another with these words.

**1 Corinthians 15:50-54**

50 Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does corruption inherit incorruption. 51 Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed-- 52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. 54 So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory."

**Short Movie Slide>**

**Acts 2:38-39**

38 Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call."

**Let’s Pray!**

**Benediction**

**"May The LORD bless you and keep you, May The LORD make His face shine upon you, May The LORD be gracious to you, May The LORD lift up His countenance upon you, and give you His (Shalom) peace.”**