

#12 - 8/19/2018 - Thankful - 2 Samuel 22 - God is worthy of our praise and thanksgiving for His provisions in this life. 1

#12 - 8/19/2018 - Thankful - 2 Samuel 22 & Psalm 18 God is worthy of our praise and thanksgiving for His provisions in this life and eternity.

I. The Lord is my Rock and Deliverer Part 1 - [Psalm 18:1-3](#) & [2 Samuel 22:2-3](#) NASB

For the choir director: A *Psalm* of David the servant of the LORD, who spoke to the LORD the words of this song in the day that the LORD delivered him from the hand of all his enemies and from the hand of Saul. And he said,

The title describes "**David the servant of the LORD**" instead of David the king of Israel. David valued his relationship with the Lord more than his position as king. There is a message for us about what we value. The Spiritual Declaration I am committed to and read daily says "Because this life is preparation for the next, I will value worship over wealth, ~~we~~ over ~~me~~, character over comfort, service over status, and people over possessions, position, and pleasures." [Link](#)

The timing of the Psalms was probably about 15 years after the death of Saul [1010 BC] and after victory over his enemies, but before his sin with Bathsheba [993 BC]. A warning to be weary of temptations when we are not persevering to do all the commands of Jesus. ^C

In vv.1-3 David began in v.1 by saying "*I love you, Lord*" and then nine times used "my" followed by words that described his dependance on God. ^A

¹ *I love you, LORD; you are my strength.* God is the strength of my life, works, hopes, conflicts and victories and I love Him. The first 4 words may be the most important in Psalm 18.

Love for God and Jesus is a predominate theme in the Bible. We love Jesus for the surpeme scarifice He made for us on the cross that made eternal life possible for every person. God sent Him to earth on that mission and Jesus was obedient, died, buried and rose again and then ascended to heaven. Have you trusted in Jesus as your Savior? Does your life demonstrate your love for what He did for you?

How many times a day do you tell Jesus you love Him? Do you like to hear your spouse; children or grandchildren say "I love you"? In the same way God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit like to hear Disciples ^B say "I love you".

All that we do should be from love for Jesus, not duty! What do you value most in life?

Notes: Verse 1 is not in 2 Samuel 22; B- [Why I use "Disciple" instead of "Christian"](#); C- 2 Samuel 11:1c "*but David remained in Jerusalem*"

II. The Lord is my Rock and Deliverer Part 2 - [Psalm 18:1-3](#) & [2 Samuel 22:2-3](#) NASB

"^{2a} The LORD is my rock, my fortress," God protects me from strife and troubles.

"^{2b} and my savior," The Lord almighty, creator and sustainer of the universe, exchanged the blood of Jesus on the cross for, the eternal payment of my sin, so that I became the righteousness of God in Him when I believed in Jesus.

"^{2c} my God is my rock, in whom I find protection." As a child of God I can go to my God for protection. I trust in God for today and my eternal future.

"^{2d} He is my shield, the power that saves me, and my place of safety." Jesus is my daily shield of faith in the [Armor of God](#), [1 Peter 1:5](#).

"^{3a} I called on the LORD, who is worthy of praise," David confidently called upon the Lord who he loves and trusts. As the Omnipotent, Omnipresent and Omniscient God, He is worthy to be praised, today as well as throughout history.

"^{3b} and he saved me from my enemies." In the post modern world there seems to be people and institutions every where that reject the gospel of Jesus. Fear not God will ultimately be victorious over all those who oppose Him.

Do you know Jesus personally and love Him and trust Him for your future?

III. The Lord is Holy- [Psalm 18:25-27](#) & [2 Samuel 22:26-28](#)

²⁵ *To the **faithful** you show yourself **faithful**; to those with **integrity** you show **integrity**.*

²⁶ *To the **pure** you show yourself **pure**, but to the **crooked** you show yourself **astute**.*

²⁷ *You rescue the **humble**, but you humiliate the **proud**.*

God is not remote and unconcerned about world affairs. He is actively aware of the lives and actions of all people, both those who accept Jesus as Savior and those who reject Him, the most powerful people and the weakest, the wealthy and the poor, educated and uneducated, well known and obscure, kind and unkind, humble and proud, etc.

Only the [Omnipresent and Omniscient God](#) can know the thoughts, words, and deeds of every man, woman, and child on the face of the earth at the same time. God can overrule the consequences of all that people think and say and do in His permissive will. David pictures a Holy God in Heaven who is attentive, safeguarding the interests of His children, and ultimately countering all the moves of people with assurance and results.

This is a picture of what Jesus does in providing justice. The Bible is full of it. We see Haman being hung on the gallows he had built for Mordecai ^A; we see Laban cheating Jacob who himself had cheated Esau ^B; We see David reaping murder and

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adultery in his own family after he himself had seduced Bathsheba and murdered her husband. ^C

When God exercises justice on a large or global scale it may be too complicated for us to follow. Therefore, we don't always see justice at work; but we can be sure that "for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap." ^D; although it may be delayed or not on the a timeline we understand. Often God allows impure people to accomplish His justice. Jesus, the High Priest, will insure that all are treated with grace and mercy in His judgment. In the end He will see that justice is impartially applied to all. ^E

Are you aware that God knows all your thoughts and actions and that you cannot hide from Him? Do you want justice or grace and mercy?

Notes: A- Esther 3-8; B- Genesis 27, 29; C-2 Samuel 11-20; D- [Galatians 6:7-9](#) NASB; E- [1 Corinthians 3:11-15, Revelation 20:11-15](#) NASB

IV. Salvation - Psalm 18:28-31 & 2 Samuel 22:29-32

²⁸ *You light a lamp for me. The LORD, my God, lights up my darkness. ²⁹ In your strength I can crush an army; with my God I can scale any wall. ³⁰ God's way is perfect. All the LORD's promises prove true. He is a shield for all who look to him for protection.*

³¹ *For who is God except the LORD? Who but our God is a solid rock?*

The great activity of Jesus focuses not so much on His goodness or His government, but on His grace. In v. 28 Jesus reveals to people their lostness through the Word and lights the lamp of the Holy Spirit in their innermost beings. He gives new life to those who accept Jesus as their Savior by grace through faith.

First, to the believer in Jesus, by **grace** all our sins are immediately forgiven and we are eternally delivered from the **penalty** of sin as described in "He made the one who did not know sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God"^B. Second, by **grace** the Disciple ^A is delivered from the **power** of sin through the daily enabling power of the Holy Spirit present in the Disciple. ^C

In vv.29-31 the Disciple is assured that God will provide the strength and power to navigate the troubles of life because of His promises and protective shield. His way for us is perfect if we will accept and follow it!

I have heard it said that: [1] most, if not all, of the Disciples judgment occurs in this life [1 Corinthians 3:11-15, 11:31-32], [2] most of the the judgment for the lost person will occur in eternity [Revelation 20:11-15], and all of the judgment of nations occurs on earth where the pure and impure those nations receive the judgment. This is a good reason to want to know Jesus personally!

Notes: A- [Why I use "Disciple" instead of "Christian"](#); B- 2 Corinthians 5:21, also [Ephesians 2:8-9, Romans 10:9,13](#); C- [1 Corinthians 3:16, Romans 5:2a, 5.2b](#) describes our hope of glory in heaven with Jesus, [Romans 8:10](#)

V. Strength and a wide path for our daily walk with joy - Psalm 18:32-33, 36 & 2 Samuel 33-34, 37...

³² *God arms me with strength, and he makes my way perfect.*

God's power gives me the strength to live a perfect life in His sight, saved by God's grace from: the penalty of sin and the dominion of the power of sin.

³³ *He makes me as surefooted as a deer, enabling me to stand on mountain heights.* ³⁶ *You have made a wide path for my feet to keep them from slipping.*

Later Habakkuk said; "*The Lord GOD is my strength, And He has made my feet like hinds' feet, And makes me walk on my high places.*" [Habakkuk 1:5-11]

Habakkuk rejoiced in faith as he committed himself to God's purposes and waited quietly for the promised day of distress [Habakkuk 1:5-11]. He lived in an agricultural economy and understood that he was saying that in the worst case Judah would have no food to eat [Habakkuk 3:17-19]. I grew up on a farm and understood what it meant to be without rain. In 1952-54 there was a severe drought and times were very hard.

Yet Habakkuk said he would exult in the Lord and rejoice because his strength is from his Lord God. The feet of the hind or deer are stable, swift and agile to allow walking and running on mountain trails. God has empowered believers in Him to negotiate the hard times in life on a wide path without slipping, but with rejoicing. He keeps us from falling from the high places of honor, service, temptation, troubles and danger.

Are you walking daily in the hard places with joy?

VI. Help in the daily battle between good and evil - Psalm 18:34-35...2 Samuel 22:35-36...

³⁴ *He trains my hands for battle; he strengthens my arm to draw a bronze bow.*

³⁵ *You have given me your shield of victory. Your right hand supports me; your help has made me great.*

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Disciples ^A have to acknowledge that we are in battle every day between the forces of good and evil. Just because we have salvation through Jesus does not mean life will be easy and we will not face any troubles.

The Holy Spirit is the great drillmaster of warriors in the battle of life against the schemes of Satan, the world system and our flesh. The goal of the Holy Spirit on earth is to conform each Disciple into the image of Jesus by making progress one day at a time. Disciples will be like Him after the rapture of the saints by Jesus.

Our soul is bent with truth from the Bible ^B by the warrior abiding in the Word daily. I recommend at least 30 minutes of time using the HEAR and ACTS ways of study, prayer and worship or something similar. I started doing this in 1980 and my life was radically changed by God.

The shield of faith from His Word is an essential part of the daily armor of God for the victorious warrior who has chosen to believe in Jesus for salvation.

The grace of God holds His children up with His right hand when we cannot stand alone against the schemes of Satan and the world. We are like strong columns of steel and concrete that cannot be moved when we are held up by God's grace. This is not because of any merit on our part but by God's grace.

Are you victorious in the daily battle between good and evil?

Notes: A- [Why I use "Disciple" instead of "Christian"](#)

B- Hebrews 4:12;

VII. The House of David is Eternal - Psalm 18:49-50 & 2 Samuel 22:50-51

⁴⁹ *Therefore **I will give thanks** to You among the nations, O LORD, And **I will sing praises** to Your name.*

David said he would be thankful for the Lord among the nations. This may be a reference to the command of to the nation of Israel to be a kingdom of priests [Exodus 19:6] that proclaimed the name of the Lord to the nations. David did this as indicated by the faithfulness of Ittai the Gittite [2 Samuel 15:19-22] and other non-Israelites that were loyal to David. David was faithful to sing praises to the nations about his Lord. Today Disciples ^A are commanded to take the gospel of Jesus to the nations. We literally have the nations to come to study, live, and work in Jacksonville in our neighborhoods and in all the USA.

⁵⁰ *He gives great **deliverance** to His king, And shows **lovingkindness** to His anointed, To **David** and his descendants **forever**.*

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David had personally received lovingkindness and deliverance from the Lord. David reminds us that the Lord had promised that David's kingdom would endure forever; *"Your house and your throne shall endure before me forever: your throne shall be established forever."* [2 Samuel 7:16] This promise was fulfilled when Jesus was born to the virgin Mary, a descendent of David.

Today this continues as all Disciples are the spiritual descendents of David through our salvation in Jesus. Some day all the followers of Jesus will be with Him in the new Jerusalem for eternity. [Revelation 21-22] What a story of redemption and salvation Disciples have to proclaim to the nations who have not yet accepted Jesus as their Savior.

Does the love of Jesus compel you to walk filled by the Spirit daily and persevering to obey all His commands?

Notes: A- [Why I use "Disciple" instead of "Christian"](#)

VIII. Summary/application for 2 Samuel 22 & Psalm 18:

1. If that we do should be from love for Jesus, not duty! What do you value most in life?
2. Do you know Jesus personally and love Him and trust Him for your future?
3. Are you aware that God knows all your thoughts and actions and that you cannot hide from Him?
4. Are you actively sharing the gospel of Jesus in your daily life?
5. Are you walking daily in the hard places with joy?
6. Are you victorious with joy in the daily battle between good and evil?
7. Does the love of Jesus compel you to walk filled by the Spirit daily and persevering to obey all His commands?

Memory verse - Psalm 18:1-2...¹ *I love you, LORD; you are my strength.* ² *The LORD is my rock, my fortress, and my savior; my God is my rock, in whom I find protection. He is my shield, the power that saves me, and my place of safety.*

Selected parts of Psalm 18 New Living Translation (NLT)

For the choir director: A psalm of David, the servant of the LORD. He sang this song to the LORD on the day the LORD rescued him from all his enemies and from Saul. He sang:

¹ I love you, LORD;
you are my strength.

² *The LORD is my rock, my fortress, and my savior;
my God is my rock, in whom I find protection.*

*He is my shield, the power that saves me,
and my place of safety.*

³ *I called on the LORD, who is worthy of praise,
and he saved me from my enemies.*

²⁵ *To the faithful you show yourself faithful;
to those with integrity you show integrity.*

²⁶ *To the pure you show yourself pure,
but to the crooked you show yourself astute.*

²⁷ *You rescue the humble,
but you humiliate the proud.*

²⁸ *You light a lamp for me.
The LORD, my God, lights up my darkness.*

²⁹ *In your strength I can crush an army;
with my God I can scale any wall.*

³⁰ *God's way is perfect.
All the LORD's promises prove true.
He is a shield for all who look to him for protection.*

³¹ *For who is God except the LORD?
Who but our God is a solid rock?*

³² *God arms me with strength,
and he makes my way perfect.*

³³ *He makes me as surefooted as a deer,
enabling me to stand on mountain heights.*

³⁴ *He trains my hands for battle;
he strengthens my arm to draw a bronze bow.*

³⁵ *You have given me your shield of victory.
Your right hand supports me;
your help has made me great.*

³⁶ *You have made a wide path for my feet
to keep them from slipping*

⁴⁹ *For this, O LORD, I will praise you among the nations;
I will sing praises to your name.*

⁵⁰ *You give great victories to your king; you show unfailing love to your anointed,
to David and all his descendants forever.*