

Assurance of God's Care

Psalm 18: 1-3, 19-23, 46-50

David's simple statement in verse 1, "I love you, O Lord, my strength", identifies him immediately as a man after God's own heart. David loved God. The assertion that God is David's strength in verses 1 and 2 is really the thesis of this Psalm. God is the one who protects, secures, and gives victory in battle. Notice the first person, possessive pronoun "my". God is personal to David and David knows Him and counts on Him. When David calls on God, something happens, and he is saved from his enemies. Praise will be part of David's call to God.

In verse 19, "David said God brought me out into a spacious place". He was not constricted by enemies or fears and then David understood the motive for God's actions as he said, "He rescued me because He delighted in me". In this context, the word "delighted" means to be mindful of, be attentive to, to keep, to protect, and to have pleasure in. David is delivered because of his dependence on God based on God's mercy and grace. David obediently kept God's laws and commands and lived by God's judgments as best as he could at this time in his life.

In verses 46 – 50, David acknowledges that victory over his enemies is possible because of the outstretched hand of God. David's worship is filled with praise and is also a witness among the Gentiles to the glory and greatness of God. David offers his thanksgiving because God's deliverance is a great deliverance. God's deliverance is for all people evermore who will be David's spiritual descendants.

As we consider this psalm, we may not be surrounded by armies, but we all face spiritual enemies from which we need deliverance every day. The God David loved and trusted is the same God we can rely on and follow knowing He is still the same deliverer through His son Jesus Christ.

From Psalm 18 we learn God is not absent but present, not distant but near, not passive but active and not powerless but powerful. He desires to be out constant refuge and strength.

The last prayer God answered for me was.....

I love God because.....

Pastor Garry Culler