

## FATHER'S DAY 2023 GOD IS MY STRENGTH AND POWER

As a young man, David wrote a song that is recorded in **Psalm 18**. It went like this:

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.

When he was older, a father and perhaps a grandfather by then... He sang that song again here in 2 Samuel 22.

As a young man, David had been pursued by his predecessor, Saul.... Later in life, his own son had turned against him... But God delivered him in both circumstances. However, it was NOT without significant suffering. And from that suffering came David's songs that continue to comfort us today...

### **David's Song of Deliverance**

**2 Samuel 22:1** Then David spoke to the LORD the words of this song, on the day when the LORD had delivered him from the hand of all his enemies, and from the hand of Saul.

- **Damian Kyle** suggests that we take note how many times David addresses this song to The Lord... Guys, we are by nature problem solvers... BUT... So is our Lord. Sometimes we charge ahead without giving our burdens to, AND waiting upon the Lord. Let's listen to the Psalmist for some advice today...

2 And he said: "**The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer**; 3 The God of my strength, in whom **I will trust**; My shield and the horn of my salvation, My stronghold and my refuge; My Savior, **You save me** from violence.

4 **I will call upon the LORD**, who is worthy to be praised; So shall I be saved from my enemies.

- We may not have neighbors or nations pursuing us like David did, But... Mark my words gentlemen, we have an enemy who is seeking our destruction every bit as much as the Philistines who persecuted King David.
- Like David, we need to "**call upon the LORD**, who is worthy to be praised; So shall **(WE)** be saved from our enemy."

### **WORST DAY EVER!**

5 "When the waves of death surrounded me, The floods of ungodliness made me afraid. 6 The sorrows of Sheol surrounded me; The snares of death confronted me.

7 In my distress **I called upon the LORD**, And **cried out to my God**; He heard my voice from His temple, And my cry entered His ears.

- Kyle – When in distress, **DON'T TAKE OUT A LOAN... PRAY!**

### **WHAT MIGHT GOD DO?**

8 "Then the earth shook and trembled; The foundations of heaven quaked and were shaken, Because He was angry. 9 Smoke went up from His nostrils, And devouring fire from His mouth; Coals were kindled by it. 10 He bowed the heavens also, and came down With darkness under His feet. 11 He rode

upon a cherub, and flew; And He was seen upon the wings of the wind. 12 He made darkness canopies around Him, Dark waters and thick clouds of the skies. 13 From the brightness before Him Coals of fire were kindled. 14 "The LORD thundered from heaven, And the Most High uttered His voice. 15 He sent out arrows and scattered them; Lightning bolts, and He vanquished them. 16 Then the channels of the sea were seen, The foundations of the world were uncovered, At the rebuke of the LORD, At the blast of the breath of His nostrils.

17 "He sent from above, He took me, He drew me out of many waters. 18 He delivered me from my strong enemy, From those who hated me; For they were too strong for me. 19 They confronted me in the day of my calamity, But the LORD was my support. 20 He also brought me out into a broad place; **(Released me from captivity)** He delivered me because He delighted in me.

- WOW... God delighted in rescuing David...
- He delights in rescuing us...
  - David believed God would change the weather for him if needs be... And indeed God DID change the weather for Israel's sake...
  - Believers, Let us pray knowing that God can do anything for us too.
  - BTW, Mostly what God changed was DAVID! We too should pray that God would be molding, transforming and creating in us new hearts for Him!

21 "The LORD rewarded me according to my righteousness; According to the cleanness of my hands He has recompensed me. 22 For I have kept the ways of the LORD, And have not wickedly departed from my God. 23 For all His judgments were

before me; And as for His statutes, I did not depart from them.  
 24 I was also blameless before Him, And I kept myself from my iniquity. 25 Therefore the LORD has recompensed me according to my righteousness, According to my cleanness in His eyes.

- As an old man, David has made peace with his past...
- "In His eyes..." V25 – Is how David views himself. THIS... Is a peace that passes all understanding!
- BUT... David also knows that righteous behavior is now expected of him...

### **DAVID'S HUMILITY**

26 "With the merciful You will show Yourself merciful; With a blameless man You will show Yourself blameless; 27 With the pure You will show Yourself pure; And with the devious You will show Yourself shrewd. 28 You will save the humble people; But Your eyes are on the haughty, that You may bring them down.

### **DAVID'S CONFIDENCE**

29 "For You are my lamp, O LORD; The LORD shall enlighten my darkness. 30 For by You I can run against a troop; By my God I can leap over a wall. 31 As for God, His way is perfect; The word of the LORD is proven; He is a shield to all who trust in Him. 32 "For who is God, except the LORD? And who is a rock, except our God?

33 God is my strength and power, And He makes my way perfect.

- **F.B. Meyer** - God's way is perfect, and if only we will walk with Him He will make ours perfect also. Walls and troops cannot stop a man when God leads him through them.

- **Dads, God does NOT expect us to be perfect... He DOES however, expect us to allow Him to be perfecting us...**