

## PSALM 18

***David came to first military service and later the crown. His preparation? He'd been a shepherd. He proved a valiant leader but also a man committed to seeking and knowing his God. After he was crowned king of a reunited country, the armies of neighboring countries attacked. For a time he was constantly at war. It must have seemed overwhelming. Yet a day came when conflict was behind him, his people at peace and secure. His praise was to God. How do you handle trials and to whom do you look for strength? And to whom do you give thanks (Lk 10:11-19)?***

**1. David loved the Lord (Who he described as his strength, rock of refuge, fortress, deliverer, shield and horn (strength) of salvation, stronghold. (1-3)**

- a. He would call to the Lord who is worthy of praise.
- b. He would be saved from his enemies.

**2. David praised God for his deliverance (4-19)**

- a. He had been overwhelmed ("cords of death," "torrents of destruction"/"ungodliness")
- b. In his distress he had called ("shouted") out to God for help.
- c. God heard his cry and answered:
  - David describes the Lord in human terms, imagining Him coming down, flying on cherubim and arriving in awesome power and force to rescue his child.
  - God had brought him out into a spacious place; rescued because He delighted in His servant (Ps 25:14, 33:16).

**3. David describes God's reason for intervention (20-29)**

- a. David was a godly man and God had dealt with him accordingly (Mtt 7:24-27).
- b. God deals with each person according to their spiritual condition:
  - Faithful to the faithful (this word also has the meaning of "kind")
  - Blameless to the blameless ("wholesome, complete, having integrity")
  - Pure to the pure ("cleansed, polished, purged, tested, polished")
  - Shrewdly (They are not going to "game the system") toward the crooked ("perverse, false, deceitful").
  - He saves the humble ("poor, afflicted, needy, humble") and bring low the proud.
- c. He had kept David going (Preserved his life, "kept his lamp burning").
  - Because of God, David's darkness was turned to light.
  - With God's help David could do what he had to do - Phil 4:13

**4. David described God (30-50)**

- a. His ways perfect ("wholesome, complete, honest"), His word flawless (Prv 30:5-6).
- b. He alone is a shield for all who take refuge in Him.
- c. He alone is God, our rock (Is 40)
  - He enables His people to do His will (makes them strong and blameless).
  - David may have become great but he knew who had done it and why (2 Sam 5:12).
  - He had enjoyed great military success but he knew why.
- d. God was alive, (as opposed to idols) and David sought His exaltation.
  - God is the avenger and Savior. (Dt 32:32-34, Is 45:21)
  - He had saved David from his violent enemies and exalted him above them.
  - Victory comes from God. He is to be praised.