

## Oh What a Savior!

Psalm 18: 1-3

(Intro. Read the Inscription preceding the Psalm.) *To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David, the servant of the Lord, who spake unto 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:* Clearly this is a Psalm of victory for David, a song of rejoicing as he praised the Lord for the blessings in his life. David had endured a long and difficult journey since Samuel had anointed him king over Israel. Now he could rest in the Lord.

I doubt any of us have endured the difficulties that David did, but we too face our struggles. Life has its storms and valleys, but even then God is good. We are quickly approaching Thanksgiving, the time when ponder our blessings and thank God for them. The believer could not adequately celebrate Thanksgiving without being thankful for our blessed Lord. I want to look at this song of David as he describes the Lord we serve. Let's consider the thought: [Oh What a Savior!](#)

**I. The LORD is our Desire** (1) – [I will love thee, O LORD, my strength](#). David had spent long years on the run facing great difficulty and danger. During the days of difficulty, he learned some things about our Lord.

**A. He is Our Love** – David certainly had developed a love for the Lord. This was much more than a casual affection or a general appreciation. David passionately loved the Lord. This [love](#) speaks of “*loving deeply; having a tender affection for.*” It has the idea of a mother's love for her child.

- I know that we are generally appreciative of the Lord's blessing in our lives. I am satisfied that we are thankful and that we love the Lord, but is our love what it ought to be? Is it a deep and tender love for Him?

**B. He is our Life** – David confesses that the Lord is his [strength](#). God provided his ability and motivation for living. He afforded David the strength and wisdom with which to stand and endure the trials of life. David is in essence declaring that apart from God he would surely have perished. The Lord was the source of his strength, the source of his life.

- The same holds true for each of us. Many may never realize or admit it, but God is our strength. He is the source and means of our existence. Were it not for His presence in our lives, we would surely perish. [Lam.3:22 – It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not.](#) Acts 17:28a – [For in him we live, and move, and have our being;](#)

## **I. The LORD is our Desire** (1)

**II. The LORD is Our Defense** (2) – [The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower.](#) Here David is reminded of the safety and security of the Lord. He goes into great detail describing all that the Lord had been and continues to be in his life. Through David's song of praise to God we discover:

**A. He is Our Stay – My Rock.** This speaks of "*a craggy cliff, one that is high and lofty.*" I can imagine times when David was lead of the Lord to a high cliff that jutted out over the valley below where God revealed the plans of the enemy and provided escape for him.

- We too may have seasons of difficulty and hardship, times when we really can't understand all that is going on or make sense of our lives. It is in those times that God will often lead us to the Rock, a place high above the difficulties and confusion of life and allow us to see things as He sees them through eyes of faith! What peace is found upon the Rock!

**B. He is Our Stronghold – My Fortress.** David described the Lord as his fortress, literally a "*stronghold or fortress.*" No doubt there were many times in David's life when the enemy was approaching and he found refuge in the Lord. He stood in defense of David and protected him.

- The word [fortress](#) also has the idea of "*a net, particularly as catching prey.*" That may seem a bit unusual, but consider the fact that God has cast His net about us. We are held within the steadfastness of His care, surrounded by His power and grace. He is surely our stronghold in times of trouble.

- [Ps.139:5 – Thou hast beset me behind and before, and laid thine hand upon me.](#) David presents a similar thought here as well. The word [beset](#) offers a parallel idea. It means "*to shut in or enclose about.*" Aren't you glad that we have a place by the Lord where we are literally surrounded by all that He is?

**C. He is Our Savior – My Deliverer.** David speaks of One who "*saves, rescues, and delivers from danger.*" I am certain that his mind went back to the many times when it seemed that defeat and maybe even death were imminent, but the Lord delivered him from danger. He rejoiced in the God of his salvation, in the Lord who was mighty to save!

- We too can rejoice in Christ our Savior, our Deliverer. He has delivered us from condemnation and the wrath of God for our sins. He has set us free from the yoke of bondage and provided liberty, full and free. We have the precious blessing of walking with the Lord, no longer bound by the shackles of sin and shame! He continues to deliver and will deliver until our faith ends in sight.

**D. He is Our Sovereign** – **My God.** David speaks of a personal relationship with the Almighty. He has come to know Him on a personal level. When his world appeared to be spinning out of control, he could look to and rely upon the One who is in charge of all things.

- That ought to stir something deep within us today. For those who have been saved, there is a personal relationship with God Himself. We need not fear His demise or failure. We are serving the Almighty, the I Am! Life may get hard to bear at times, but I am secure in the Lord. He is still seated on His throne and that will never change! **Ps.18:2 – The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower.**

**E. He is Our Strength** – **My Strength.** David has already spoken of the Lord as his strength in **V.1**, but this has a different meaning. Here the word **strength** refers to “*an unmovable rock, or a cliff.*” David was secure in One that was unmovable. He had been settled upon a firm foundation that would never move or shake. Even if the world around him seemed to be falling apart and crumbling at his feet, the Lord was unmovable. In the midst of the battle, His God was steadfast.

- Isn't that a tremendous blessing and powerful truth? There is much in this life that is uncertain. We all face trials and temptations. The only thing that appears to be certain regarding the flesh is change. But the child of God has an Anchor of the soul. We have been placed in One who will never change! **Heb.6:19-20 – Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast, and which entereth into that within the veil; [20] Whither the forerunner is for us entered, even Jesus, made an high priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec.** Heb.13:8 – **Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.**

**F. He is Our Satisfaction** – **In whom I trust.** David had learned that God would never leave him, forsake him, or fail him. He had never found the Lord to be lacking in His power and provision. There were those that had turned their backs on David, but God never had. In all of the uncertainties of life, God was always there and He could ever be trusted.

- When storms and battles come and it seems that all have forsaken or turned against you, just look to Jesus. He will never fail and we can always place our faith and trust in Him. Surely we can trust the One who gave Himself a ransom for our sins, dying in our place!

**G. He is Our Shield** – **My Buckler.** David described the Lord as his Buckler, literally “*a shield.*” When the enemy was advancing and it seemed that he would never survive, God intervened on his behalf and shielded him from the hurt and danger. In those times when his flesh was weak and inadequate, God proved mighty on his behalf.

- How many times has the Lord stood as our Buckler? We likely will never know. There are times when the Lord allows trials and storms to come our way, but we will never know all of the times that God has stepped in and shielded us from the attacks of the enemy. Were it not for His divine power and provision, we would have already perished.

- Ps.34:7 – The angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them. Ps.91:4 – He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler. Ps.18:2 – The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower.

**H. He is Our Salvation** – **The Horn of my Salvation**. David reveals that he has no fear while he trusts in the Lord. The **horn** speaks of “*strength, power, and conquest.*” He may suffer defeat while living this life, but he is certain of his security in the Lord. He is confident that he will never lose his salvation.

- We too can rest in that blessed assurance. The saved are eternally secure in the Lord. You may lose everything you own in this life, but if you are saved, you will never lose your salvation. You are as good as there now!

**I. He is Our Source** – **My High Tower**. David concluded his thoughts of God acknowledging that God alone is his **High Tower**. No doubt David is mindful of the many towers that were built around Jerusalem and other great cities of his day. It was from these towers that soldiers defended the city. They had a great vantage point to view the advancing enemy. It was in the towers that supplies and provisions were kept in case of a siege. The tower offered rest, security, and provision.

- I am reminded that God is all that I need while traveling this road of life. He will provide those things that I need. I can lean upon Him and find all that I need in His abundant supply!

## **I. The LORD is our Desire** (1)

## **II. The LORD is Our Defense** (2)

**III. The LORD is Our Delight** (3) – **I will call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised: so shall I be saved from mine enemies**. We have not reached the end of David’s song of praise, but we have reached a point where he paused to worship the Lord. With the few thoughts that he has sang of already, he felt compelled to pause and worship the worthy Lord. He was David’s song and delight.

- I would like to challenge us to pause and reflect on the goodness and abundance that we have received from the Lord. I am certain that we would all have to admit that God has been good in our lives. He has already blessed us beyond what we could ever deserve. Surely you would agree that God is worthy of our worship and praise.

As we close this evening, I wonder if you might like to come and offer a prayer of thanksgiving for all your many blessings. If you have never been saved, you really can't appreciate all that we have discussed, but I have good news for you as well. Jesus stands ready to save you if you will only come to Him. Why not just be obedient to His call?