

I will love thee, O LORD, my strength. The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler [shield], and the horn of my salvation [the power that saves me], and my high tower [my place of safety]. I will call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised: so shall I be saved from mine enemies. The sorrows of death compassed [surrounded] me, and the floods of ungodly men made me afraid. The sorrows of hell compassed me about: the snares of death prevented [were right in front of] me. In my distress I called upon the LORD, and cried unto my God: he heard my voice out of his temple, and my cry came before him, even into his ears.... The LORD liveth; and blessed be my rock; and let the God of my salvation be exalted.

1. Introduction

- a. David sang this psalm of prayer to the Lord when God delivered him from King Saul's attempts to kill him
- b. Recall your own difficult times when God brought you through those times
- c. Necessity of prayer in all times of life

Psalm 56:3 What time [When] I am afraid, I will trust in thee.

2. His Provision is Reliable, verse 2

- a. His presence abides with us
 - i. Note the strong words used to describe God: rock, fortress, & high tower
 - ii. Our faithful God in His creation giving us water, food, air to breathe, & sunshine
Psalm 37:25 I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed [the children of the righteous] begging [...for...] bread.
 - iii. Jesus stays with us even to the end
Matthew 28:20 Teaching them [new believers] to observe all things whatsoever I [Jesus] have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.
 - iv. God is for us, and wants to give us everything we need to please Him
Lamentations 3:22 It is of the LORD'S mercies that we are not consumed [destroyed], because his compassions fail not.
 - v. God protects us
Psalm 46:1 ... God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

b. His provision sustains us

i. For defense

Psalm 37:17 *For the arms [weapons or the hands] of the wicked shall be broken: but the LORD upholdeth the righteous.*

ii. For finances

2 Corinthians 8:15 *As it is written, He that had gathered much had nothing over [didn't have too much]; and he that had gathered little had no lack [had enough].*

iii. For health

Philippians 4:16, 19 *For even [...when I was...] in Thessalonica ye [Philippians] sent once and again unto my necessity [what I needed]. ... But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.*

iv. Learn to pray for comfort & for God's provision

Psalm 37:23 *The steps of a good man are ordered [prepared beforehand] by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way.*

c. His perception guides us

i. God has a better perspective than we do so his love is bounded by wisdom

James 1:5 *If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally [generously], and upbraideth not [won't scold you]; and it shall be given him.*

ii. Qualities of heavenly wisdom

James 3:17 *But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated [reasonable], full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.*

3. His Promises are Reliable

a. David called to God in his distress, and God gave him courage to continue his struggle. 2 Corinthians 4:16 *For which cause we faint not [don't lose hope]; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day.*

b. Identity of the promises

i. For strength

Philippians 4:13 *I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.*

ii. To overcome Satan

1 John 4:4 *Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them [false prophets]: because greater is he that is in you [the Holy Spirit], than he that is in the world [the spirit of antichrist].*

- iii. God cares for us

1 Peter 5:7 *Castings all your care upon him; for he careth for you.*

c. Nature of His promises

- i. God is unique because God does not change (immutable)

Psalm 18:30 *As for God, his way is perfect: the word of the LORD is tried: he is a buckler [shield] to all those that trust in him.*

Malachi 3:6 *For I am the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob [Jews] are not consumed.*

- ii. God makes no mistakes (infallible)

Numbers 23:19 *God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good [make it happen]?*

- iii. God's power is infinite (omnipotent)

Matthew 28:18 *And Jesus came and spake unto them [sdf], saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.*

4. His Payment is Reliable

a. Cost of His payment

- i. Jesus is the God of my salvation

Psalm 18:46 *The LORD liveth; and blessed [be] my rock; and let the God of my salvation be exalted.*

1 John 5:11 *And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.*

- ii. Salvation was purchased with the precious blood of Jesus

1 Peter 1:18-19 *Forasmuch as **ye know that ye were ... redeemed ... with the precious blood of Christ**, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:*

- iii. Peace through the cross of Christ

Colossians 1:20 *And, **having made peace through the blood of his cross**, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven.*

b. Covering of His payment

- i. No act of religion or government can cover your sins

- ii. Only Jesus can redeem (pay the price) for your sins

Romans 3:24 *Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:*