

## 2 Samuel 22:1-51 **God Has Defeated My Enemies Before Me**

### Praise For God's Deliverance From All Enemies (Psalm 18)

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> And he said:

#### Trusting God for Protection and Enablement – God is Worthy to be Praised

"The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; <sup>3</sup> 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. <sup>4</sup> I will call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised; So shall I be saved from my enemies.

<sup>5</sup> "When the waves of death surrounded me, The floods of ungodliness made me afraid. <sup>6</sup> The sorrows of Sheol surrounded me; The snares of death confronted me. <sup>7</sup> 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.

<sup>8</sup> "Then the earth shook and trembled; The foundations of heaven quaked and were shaken, Because He was angry. <sup>9</sup> Smoke went up from His nostrils, And devouring fire from His mouth; Coals were kindled by it. <sup>10</sup> He bowed the heavens also, and came down With darkness under His feet. <sup>11</sup> He rode upon a cherub, and flew; And He was seen upon the wings of the wind. <sup>12</sup> He made darkness canopies around Him, Dark waters and thick clouds of the skies. <sup>13</sup> From the brightness before Him Coals of fire were kindled.

<sup>14</sup> "The Lord thundered from heaven, And the Most High uttered His voice. <sup>15</sup> He sent out arrows and scattered them; Lightning bolts, and He vanquished them. <sup>16</sup> 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.

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

<sup>21</sup> "The Lord rewarded me according to my righteousness; According to the cleanness of my hands He has recompensed me. <sup>22</sup> For I have kept the ways of the Lord, And have not wickedly departed from my God. <sup>23</sup> For all His judgments were before me; And as for His statutes, I did not depart from them. <sup>24</sup> I was also blameless before Him, And I kept myself from my iniquity. <sup>25</sup> Therefore the Lord has recompensed me according to my righteousness, According to my cleanness in His eyes.

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

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. 34 He makes my feet like the feet of deer, And sets me on my high places. 35 He teaches my hands to make war, So that my arms can bend a bow of bronze.

36 "You have also given me the shield of Your salvation; Your gentleness has made me great. 37 You enlarged my path under me; So my feet did not slip.

38 "I have pursued my enemies and destroyed them; Neither did I turn back again till they were destroyed. 39 And I have destroyed them and wounded them, So that they could not rise; They have fallen under my feet.

40 For You have armed me with strength for the battle; You have subdued under me those who rose against me. 41 You have also given me the necks of my enemies, So that I destroyed those who hated me. 42 They looked, but there was none to save; Even to the Lord, but He did not answer them. 43 Then I beat them as fine as the dust of the earth; I trod them like dirt in the streets, And I spread them out.

44 "You have also delivered me from the strivings of my people; You have kept me as the head of the nations. A people I have not known shall serve me. 45 The foreigners submit to me; As soon as they hear, they obey me. 46 The foreigners fade away, And come frightened from their hideouts.

47 "The Lord lives! Blessed be my Rock! Let God be exalted, The Rock of my salvation! 48 It is God who avenges me, And subdues the peoples under me; 49 He delivers me from my enemies. You also lift me up above those who rise against me; You have delivered me from the violent man. 50 Therefore I will give thanks to You, O Lord, among the Gentiles, And sing praises to Your name.

51 He is the tower of salvation to His king, And shows mercy to His anointed, To David and his descendants forevermore."

NKJV

Facts Revealed:

### Praise For God's Deliverance From All Enemies (Psalm 18)

✧ 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. [2 Samuel 22:1]

✧ When David is old and looking back on his life he realizes that Yahweh has indeed been his enabler through it all.

### Trusting God for Protection and Enablement – God is Worthy to be Praised

✧ "The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; 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.

I will call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised; So shall I be saved from my enemies.  
[2 Samuel 22:2-4]

- ✧ Though many had attempted to destroy David, The Lord had always been his defense, enabler, and Savior Whom David fully trusted.
- ✧ David had learned to call upon the Lord when he was in distress by his enemies.
- ✧ Besides Yahweh, there is no Savior. [Isaiah 43:11]
- ✧ Jesus came as the Savior of the world demonstrating He is Yahweh in the flesh. [Matthew 1:21, Luke 2:11, John 3:14-17, 4:42, Acts 5:30-31, 16:31]
- ✧ Now is the time to recognize and Praise God for His helping hand through it all, for He is worthy of all our Praise.
- ☆ 5 "When the waves of death surrounded me, The floods of ungodliness made me afraid. The sorrows of Sheol surrounded me; The snares of death confronted me. 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. [2 Samuel 22:5-7]
  - ✧ God had been faithful to hear and respond to David's prayers for help when he was in trouble.
  - ✧ In his darkest hours of trials, David learned to cry out to God, and knew that God in Heaven heard his cry.
- ☆ "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. [2 Samuel 22:8-13]
  - ✧ David used graphic terms to describe what God had done and revealed much about the acts and character of God.
  - ✧ Many of the things said of Yahweh were demonstrated by Jesus Who said:
 

"These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that **all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me.**" [Luke 24:44-45]
  - ✧ At the presence of God, the earth shook and trembled indicating that the earth is in the hands of God and it is God Who causes earthquakes.
  - ✧ The foundations of Heaven quaked and were shaken indicating that everything in the heavens are under the power of God and can be shaken by Him.
  - ✧ Thick darkness was the 9<sup>th</sup> plague against Egypt, and when He opened the Red Sea for Israel to cross over. [Exodus 10:22, 14:20]
  - ✧ When God came down upon Mount Sinai (Horeb), He was accompanied by thick darkness fire, smoke and an earthquake on the mountain. [Exodus 19:18, 20:21]
  - ✧ In His anger, God sends fire to devour, as He did with Sodom and Gomorrah, and will do again when the earth is ended and the elements will melt with fervent heat. [Genesis 18:20, 19:24-29, 2 Peter 3:12]
  - ✧ He rode upon a cherub and flew, God was seen riding on the cherubim by Ezekiel in the vision of God. [2 Samuel 22:11, Ezekiel 1:1-28]
  - ✧ He was seen upon the wings of the wind. [2 Samuel 22:11, Genesis 17:22, 35:13, Judges 13:20, John 6:62, 20:17, Mark 16:19-20, Luke 24:50-51, Acts 1:1-11]
- ☆ 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. [2 Samuel 22:14-16]
  - ✧ The Lord sent out thunder, hail, and fire on Egypt with His plagues. [Exodus 9:23-24]

- ✧ Earthquake, lightning, thunder and fire also accompanied the presence of God on Mount Horeb (Sinai) as He gave the Law to the Children of Israel. [Exodus 19:16, 18, 20:18]
- ✧ The voice of God was heard by all the Children of Israel at Mount Sinai (Horeb) when He gave them the Law. [Exodus 19:9, 19, Deuteronomy 4:12, 33, 36, 5:23-26]
- ✧ The Lord came in a thick cloud to Mount Sinai. [Exodus 19:9, 16]
- ✧ The Red Sea was opened, the foundations of the earth were uncovered, and they saw the channels of the sea as they crossed on dry ground and the Egyptian army was vanquished. [Exodus 14:21-30]
- ✧ This was done at the blast of His nostrils. [Exodus 15:8, 2 Samuel 22:16, Psalm 18:15]
- ✧ 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; He delivered me because He delighted in me. [2 Samuel 22:17-20]
- ✧ The fact of the help received from the Lord is acknowledged.
- ✧ 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. [2 Samuel 22:21-25]
- ✧ David makes the connection of God's deliverance with his own desire to maintain his integrity before God. This is the same as the relationship between Job and God.
- ✧ This is in complete agreement with the testimony about David throughout Scripture, that he remained a man after God's Own heart, and he always did what was pleasing to the Lord except in the matter of Uriah the Hittite, for which he humbly confessed, repented and pleaded for forgiveness, after which he received punishment and forgiveness because of the great impact on the people as an example. [1 Samuel 13:14, 2 Samuel 12:7-15, 1 Kings 15:5]
- ✧ 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. [2 Samuel 22:26-28]
- ✧ David acknowledged the loving merciful attribute of God, as well as His righteousness in judgment, His sternness against the haughty arrogance of the wicked, and God's willingness to show mercy to the humble.
- ✧ God loves purity and hates arrogant wickedness.
- ✧ 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. [2 Samuel 22:29-30]
- ✧ Understanding and ability are from the Lord God of Israel.
- ✧ 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? [2 Samuel 22:31-32]
- ✧ All the ways of God are perfect.
- ✧ The Word of God has been well proven and is totally reliable.
- ✧ God is the only one upon Whom we can confidently trust for protection.
- ✧ 33 God is my strength and power, And He makes my way perfect. 34 He makes my feet like the feet of deer, And sets me on my high places. 35 He teaches my hands to make war, So that my arms can bend a bow of bronze. [2 Samuel 22:33-35]
- ✧ All our ability we receive from the Lord God.

- ☆ 36 "You have also given me the shield of Your salvation; Your gentleness has made me great.  
37 You enlarged my path under me; So my feet did not slip. [2 Samuel 22:36-37]
- ◇ David rejoices in the Shield of Salvation, where Paul the Apostle spoke of the Helmet of Salvation and the Shield of Faith. Either way, the armor of God protects both mind and heart of the man of faith. [Ephesians 6:16-17]
- ◇ As David reflects on his past, he realizes that God has protected him in all his adverse circumstances from Saul and the Philistines as well as the other enemies that have sought to harm him.
- ◇ God has been a gentle protector of David all along the path of his life, keeping his feet from slipping when confronting the enemy.
- ☆ 38 "I have pursued my enemies and destroyed them; Neither did I turn back again till they were destroyed. 39 And I have destroyed them and wounded them, So that they could not rise; They have fallen under my feet. [2 Samuel 22:38-39]
- ◇ As David fought the physical battles of the Lord in defending His people Israel, David had not turn back until the war was finished and the enemies destroyed.
- ◇ This speaks of David's commitment to the end.
- ☆ 40 For You have armed me with strength for the battle; You have subdued under me those who rose against me. 41 You have also given me the necks of my enemies, So that I destroyed those who hated me. 42 They looked, but there was none to save; Even to the Lord, but He did not answer them. 43 Then I beat them as fine as the dust of the earth; I trod them like dirt in the streets, And I spread them out. [2 Samuel 22:40-43]
- ◇ Though David had done his part in steadfast commitment to the task, still he acknowledged that the outcome was the doing of the Lord Who provided the ability.
- ☆ 44 "You have also delivered me from the strivings of my people; You have kept me as the head of the nations. A people I have not known shall serve me. 45 The foreigners submit to me; As soon as they hear, they obey me. 46 The foreigners fade away, And come frightened from their hideouts. [2 Samuel 22:44-46]
- ◇ God has delivered David from those who rose against him, and kept him as the head of the nations and this David acknowledged.
- ◇ God had delivered David's enemies into his hands, just as God had delivered the enemies of God into the hands of Abraham and Israel. [Genesis 14:20, Exodus 23:31, Numbers 21:1-3, 33-35, Deuteronomy 2:30, 3:1-7, 7:17-26, Joshua 2:24, 10:8, 30-32, 11:6-9, 21:44-45, 24:11]
- ◇ Foreigners David did not even know became subject to him.
- ☆ 47 "The Lord lives! Blessed be my Rock! Let God be exalted, The Rock of my salvation! 48 It is God who avenges me, And subdues the peoples under me; 49 He delivers me from my enemies. You also lift me up above those who rise against me; You have delivered me from the violent man. 50 Therefore I will give thanks to You, O Lord, among the Gentiles, And sing praises to Your name. [2 Samuel 22:47-50]
- ◇ All that the Lord has done is evidence that we serve a living God, and David could not contain the exaltation and praise that swelled up in him toward God Who had blessed him so greatly.
- ◇ All thanks, praise and credit goes to God Most High, and David is pleased to express it all to the Gentiles that they also may know of the God of Israel.
- ◇ David is determined to sing praises to the Name of Yahweh.
- ☆ 51 He is the tower of salvation to His king, And shows mercy to His anointed, To David and his descendants forevermore." [2 Samuel 22:51]
- ◇ David rejoiced in God's Salvation and mercy he has received, knowing it is forever. This became David's favorite theme, "For His mercy endures forever." [1 Chronicles & Psalms]