

David's Song of Victory!

I. INTRO:

- A. We welcome back our team from **Cambodia**(Wed share?). Team left Fri night to **Burma**.
- B. **Songs** are an important part of our lives!
1. **Weird...** I was watching KNBC News, w/Colleen Williams reporting on **Sonic drugs** – aka “**digital drugs**” or “**i-dosing**” that are available online. I-dosing websites claim that listening to specific sound can make someone **feel** as if they've taken actual drugs. Sonic drugs work through binaural(*bl-nerel*) beats -- the playing of two slightly different tones and frequencies into both ears simultaneously.
- C. I don't know about that, but I do know...**Songs** are an important part of our lives!
1. **They are key for expression** (we express heart & life through them).
 2. **They are key for instruction** (they impact us deeply).
 3. Songs help us **say** what we wanted to say.
 4. **We put words to the things of our heart. Or, they help us to guide heart into what we should be expressing** (i.e. worship).
- D. Here is David's **Song of Victory!**
1. **Note:** 1st Sam started with a song(**Hannah's**) & now 2nd Sam bookends w/David's.
- E. This song is repeated, with slight variations in Ps.18.
1. **2 Sam.22** was intended to reveal his heart as he recalls **God's Faithfulness**; **Ps.18** seems to have been modified later for use as an **aid** in public worship.
 - a) **Its like**, if I shared one of my poems on my blog, & then used it later in a sermon in a different context.
 2. This is the **longest quote** attributed to David in the whole bible.
 3. **We learn a lot about watching** his life, **but here**, the **sweet psalmist of Israel** shares right from his very soul.
- F. **Outline:** **God's Protection**; **God's Power**; **God's Provision**; **God's Perfect Justice**.

II. GOD'S PROTECTION! (1-7)

- A. (1) Saul was not listed as an enemy, **but** was in a different category. *What grace!*
- B. (2) **David did not take credit** for any of his victories; he gave the glory to God.
- C. (3) The writer of Hebrews applies this verse to **Jesus!** (Heb.2:13)
- D. (2,3) **My** - occurs **9 x's** in 2 vs.
1. May all of our prayers start off with “**praise, adoration, admiration, exaltation.**”

2. It's simply setting your heart free to sing to God.
 3. How **multifaceted** our God is! - We can pile 1 expression upon another, **but** they are all **inadequate** in trying to explain Him.
- E. **Rock** - reminds of strength & stability. (river swift current in Burma; I remember getting to the other side & holding on with finger tips!)
- F. **Fortress** - stronghold, *matsada* (Masada).
- G. **Shield** - *magen* (small shield, protects from attack) [*Magen David Adom*; like Red Cross] [Star/shield of David]
1. *Red Cross; Red Crystal(diamond w/star of David); Red Crescent; Red Lion w/sun/sword(Iran).*
 2. From Deut.15:1 **After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, saying, "Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your exceedingly great reward."**
- H. **Stronghold**-Prov.18:12 **The name of the Lord is a strong tower; The righteous run to it & are safe**
- I. **Refuge** - think of the battles over the years: *w/Philistia, Aram, Ammon. Goliath, Achish, Sheba, his own Absalom...Saul.*
1. In every **tempest**, David found a **shelter in the Lord**.
- J. **Are you trudging through tough times?** Comfort your heart w/David's **images** of God.
1. Each speaking of **God's security**. [but how do you get this security? **see 5-7**]
- K. (5-7) David now begins with **the depth** into which he sunk.
1. (7) **Yet, he could cry...& God would hear!**
 - a) There is no **distress so deep**, no **flood so high**, **but** our **cry** may rise into **the ear of God**.
 - b) God was **no** distant deity, preoccupied w/other galaxies **or** concerned w/the changing of the seasons. His God heard his voice!
 2. **What do you do when your'e drowning in a flood of opposition?** (vs.7!)
- L. **Ex:** In my *salt water fish tank* there are 3 options for **protection**:
1. **Protect yourself!** They carry their protection around with them. However doesn't always work. [lil hermit crabs were dying off. Finally I caught a bigger crab I bought, w/his claw down the shell of a hermit crab eating him like ice cream from a bowl]
 2. **Find the protection in others!** Symbiotic relationship (clown fish/Nemo & anemone) which is great, till my anemone died. **Gangs/Mafia work the same way.**
 3. **Find your protection from above! Me!** This *other-worldly* help, that sometimes steps in, *yet always watching*, & removes mean crabs; removes green algae before it takes over their world.
 - a) This **3rd option** is the best option. It seems foolish at 1st because it is trusting in what you **cannot see**. So **faith is involved**. Its what activates this protection. It is divine.
 - b) And as you begin to place your faith in a **protection you cannot see**, you begin to experience your faith. Your faith is proven out in experience.

c) What we are talking about is *faith in the Living God*.

III. GOD'S POWER! (8-16)

- A. David describes *God's intervention* as “an earthquake, followed by His arrows of lightening, fire, smoke, darkness, thick clouds, His voice like thunder, winds like the angry breath of His nostrils.” *God was angry!*
- B. Doesn't this make you look at *storms in your life* a little different, when you find out...*dark thick black clouds*...are His chariot!
- C. *What's God doing?* He is **responding** to those cries. He's **bringing rain**(ch.21, 3 yr famine). He's **answering** the call for help in the drought & the famine.
1. *Can you picture Him coming in the same way to answer your cries?* (powerful!!!)
- D. Icebergs: In the frigid waters around **Greenland** are countless **icebergs**, some little and some **gigantic**. If you'd observe them carefully, you'd notice that sometimes the **small ice floes** move in **one direction** while their **massive counterparts** flow in **another**. The explanation is simple. **Surface winds** drive the little ones, whereas the huge masses of ice are carried along by **deep ocean currents**.
1. **When** we face **trials** and **tragedies**, it's helpful to see our lives as being subject to two forces - **surface winds** and **ocean currents**.
 2. The winds represent everything changeable, unpredictable, & distressing. **But** operating simultaneously with these gusts & gales is another force that's even more powerful. It is the sure movement of God's wise & sovereign purposes, the deep flow of His unchanging love.

IV. GOD'S PROVISION! (17-25)

- A. (17) God not only **came down**(10) he **reached down** & plucked David out of dangerous waters
- B. (19,20) **Sums up** what he has said so far.
- C. (20a) **He also brought me out into a broad place** - PTL, no longer “*tight places!*” (Ps.46:1)
- D. *Madame Guyon*(17th cent. French mystic) **And what is this "large place"? What can it be but **God Himself**, that infinite Being in whom all other beings and all other streams of life terminate? God is a large place indeed. And it was through humiliation, through abasement, through nothingness that David was brought into it.**
1. **Exod. 19:4 I bare you on eagle's wings, and brought you unto myself.**
 2. Fearing to launch on "full surrender's" tide,
I asked the Lord where would its waters glide
My little bark, "To troubled seas I dread?" - **"Unto Myself," He said.**
Weeping beside an open grave I stood,
In bitterness of soul I cried to God:
"Where leads this path of sorrow that I tread?" - **"Unto Myself," He said.**
Striving for souls, I loved the work too well;

Then disappointments came; I could not tell
 The reason, till He said, - "**I am thine all; Unto Myself I call.**"
 Watching my heroes--those I loved the best--
 I saw them fail; they could not stand the test,
 Even by this the Lord, through tears not few, **Unto Himself me drew.**
 Unto Himself! No earthly tongue can tell
 The bliss I find, since in His heart I dwell;
 The things that charmed me once seem all as naught; **Unto Himself I'm brought.**¹

- E. (20b) **He delivered me because *He delighted in me.*** [That's the whole message of Grace!]
1. **Can you say that? Do you even think that?** Oh, not that you were so lovable in yourself; **no**, because He choose to love you.
 - a) **Ex:** I've had friends choose the ugliest dogs. I didn't see anything lovely *at all* in them. But they really love them. *They are family now!*
 2. Moses told the Israelites, **The Lord did not set His love on you nor choose you because you were more in number than any other people, for you were the least of all peoples; but because the Lord loves you...** Deut.7:7,8a
- F. Hang on that truth in the midst of your calamity!
1. "**Caring for you, He feels your ache; Delighting in you, He will be your security.**"²
 2. **Believe it!** He *delights in you* saints. **Believe it!**
 3. The battle endures & exhausts you! **But remember, He rescues you because He delights in you.**
- G. Tomorrow(Oct.31st, 2011) between 1 & 2pm the population of earth hits **7 billion!**
1. I saw a web site(world population cock)that celebrates this event w/a **tee-shirt** that reads **Oct.31st,2011 6,999,999,999 + ME!**
- H. (21-24) The **theological center** of the poem is found here, as David revealed the reason for his deliverance. **It is because** David was careful to follow the law of the Lord.³
1. These verses are not a declaration of sinless perfection, for David was a sinner like any man. These describe David's **integrity of heart.**
 1. Ps.78:70-72 **He also chose David His servant, And took him from the sheepfolds; From following the ewes that had young He brought him, To shepherd Jacob His people, And Israel His inheritance. So he shepherded them according to the integrity of his heart, And guided them by the skillfulness of his hands.**
 2. It's believed it was written before his fall...but nonetheless.

¹ Streams in the Desert, Aug.21, Psalms 18:19.

² Charles Swindoll, David, pg.179.

³ Shepherd's Notes, 1 & 2 Samuel, pg.88.

V. **GOD'S PERFECT JUSTICE! (26-28)**

- A. Before my last point(your homework) Try setting time aside this week to *set your heart free to sing to God*. Maybe jot down how multifaceted your God is!
- B. (28) **You will save the humble people** - (Dictionary of Biblical Languages) *oppressed, poor; i.e., pertaining to being a lowly, needy state, as a class of persons of low status in a society, usually of persons in fiscal poverty, implying a lack of resource.*
1. As Charlotte shared...we are interested in Fair Trade, **why?** Not nec to protect our ecosystem(yet we should care about Gods backyard) but to **improve lives**.
 2. To help **hard working people**, who **grow & sew** the products we love, in 70 different countries to get **fair prices** & to help them **keep their kids in school**.
 3. (28) **God will save the humble/the poor, oppressed, those in poverty**; & we're going to team up with Him in what He's doing. **Helping them spiritually...& practically!**