

Christ, the All-Sufficient One – Part 2

Psalm 18

Introduction:

1. Have you ever felt like you were in an impossible situation and there was no way out? That is the situation that David was in, but David had experienced a great deliverance from the Lord. vs. 6-7, 16-19
2. This psalm is a song of victory after David's deliverance. It is clear as you read this psalm that David is a picture of his seed (Israel) that in the last days will gain a great deliverance (vs. 50). This psalm is a fascinating psalm dealing with the last days, the day of the Lord and Christ's Second Coming to earth.
3. But I want to bring out something very practical from this psalm. As David went through his incredible trial, he found that the Lord was the all-sufficient One. vs. 1-3
4. Did you know that the Bible declares our Savior, Jesus Christ, to be the Lord of lords? Thomas worshipped Him and said, *"My Lord and my God."* Jesus Christ was Jehovah God manifest in the flesh. Jesus said, *"Before Abraham was, I am."*
John 8:58
5. If you have believed on Christ as your Lord and Savior, **Colossians 2:9-10** says this: *"For in him (Christ) dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily. And ye are complete in him."*
 - Through faith in Christ, you were placed in Him and you were given Christ's very life. All that you need to live victoriously is found in Christ. You lack nothing!
6. But my position of completeness in Christ does not automatically guarantee me victory. I must know how to **use** what I have been given in Christ.
 - **Illustration:** somebody gives me a multi-function boom box. All that I need to listen to CD's, radio, or even cassettes is there, but I must know how to use it. The problem isn't with the box, but with my understanding in how to use it.
7. How do I learn how to use what I have been given in Christ? Through God's Word. It reveals to me what I have been given and how to use it.
 - If I am saved, I have the power of Christ living within me, and I have God's instruction on how to tap into, use, or appropriate that power.
8. As you read Psalm 18, Jesus Christ is never mentioned by the name "Jesus Christ." Yet, as a believer on Christ, you should see Christ all through this psalm. The Bible is a Book about Jesus Christ. It all points to Him. He is the focus and central figure.
Luke 24:27
9. We have an advantage that David didn't have. David many times had to look at circumstances to see all that the Lord was and to see His mighty power. We don't have to look at circumstances to understand what we have in Christ.
10. God's Word has lifted the veil. We no longer see through a glass darkly. We hold in our hands God's completed Word and it gives us full understanding of who we are in Christ and what we possess in Christ. Let's examine **Psalm 18:2** and see this.

Christ is our Rock

1. David used this term several times in reference to the Lord. **Psalm 40:2**

- The idea is that God had lifted him up out of a mudhole and put his feet on solid footing. He now had a solid foundation.
2. As we read God's Word we learn that this is exactly what Christ is to us. Have you ever heard the hymn, "The Solid Rock?" **1 Corinthians 10:4**
 3. Christ is our rock. He is the foundation that our entire life is built upon. If your life is built upon anything other than your relationship to Jesus Christ, you have a shaky foundation. **1 Corinthians 3:11**
 - Christ has lifted us from the mudhole of sin, saved us, and rooted us in Him. **Acts 4:11-12**
 4. You may be here today and feel like you are sinking and drowning in a sea of difficult circumstances. This is when you must go to God's Word and say, "No, I am not sinking. Jesus is my Savior. He is my foundation. I am on the Rock of ages. He doesn't change." vs. 31
 5. You are complete in Christ. He is the all-sufficient One.

Christ is our Fortress

1. A fortress in Bible days was a place of defense, safety, and security. For example, a castle or a fort would be a fortress (pictures). cf. **Psalm 71:3**
2. Paul called believers today in this time of grace "the building of God" (**1 Corinthians 3:9**). He also taught that God Himself inhabits this building. **Ephesians 2:22**
3. David said that God was his strong habitation that he could continually resort to. Today you don't have to flee to God as your resort. He actually indwells you in the person of Christ and His Spirit. **Colossians 1:27** says, "*Christ in you, the hope of glory.*"
 - If Christ lives in you, you have constant 24-hour-a-day security. **Romans 8:9-10**
4. You received His Spirit the moment you believed on Him, and you are sealed with His Spirit until His coming. **Ephesians 4:30**
5. You have security in Christ! He is our fortress. When trouble comes, you don't have to (in your mind) flee to Him and try and get His attention. He lives **in you**, to walk **with you** through the problems and trials of life. You are complete in Him. He is all-sufficient.

Christ is our Deliverer.

1. David had experienced a great deliverance from the enemy, and so he cries out, "Lord, you are my deliverer." Notice that David was delivered from the sorrows of death and the sorrows of hell. vs. 4-6
2. Today, the enemies of death and hell have been forever defeated and overcome. How? By the appearing of our Savior, Jesus Christ. **2 Timothy 1:10**
3. Jesus lived a sinless life and then died the death that we deserve, to die on the cross. Three days later He rose from the dead. He has abolished death and brought life. The enemies of death and hell were too strong for us, so Christ defeated them for us. vs. 17

4. The moment you trust Him to be your Savior, Christ delivers you from the penalty of your sin, He delivers you from eternal death and hell. **Colossians 1:13-14; Galatians 1:4**
5. **Hebrews 2:14-15** are so insightful. You do not have to fear death. You don't have to fear incurring God's wrath and judgment for eternity. Jesus Christ was delivered for our offences that He might deliver us and give to us eternal life.

We are complete in Christ. Christ is the all-sufficient One!

Christ is our Strength.

1. Do you ever feel weak? Not just physically, but mentally, emotionally, or spiritually? We all go through times of weakness. David knew what it was to have enemies that were too strong for him. vs. 17-18
 - The word "stay" carries the idea of support or strength.
2. Did you know that if you are saved today, the One who said that all power was given unto him, lives inside of you? Jesus Christ is our strength for daily living.
3. Just like David, our enemies were too strong for us. Our own sin, Satan, death, and hell had us in their grip, but thank God for **Romans 5:6**. Christ defeated sin, Satan, death, and hell through His death on the cross and glorious resurrection!
4. The moment you trust Him as your Savior, you receive His life in your inner man. **Ephesians 3:16-17**
5. Life can knock you down. Paul knew what this was like. Satan had attacked Paul and he had been left with a thorn in the flesh - some type of infirmity. When Paul asked the Lord for deliverance, notice what Christ said. **2 Corinthians 12:9**
 - Jesus said, "Paul, the grace and strength that I provide for you is enough."
6. When a Christian says things like, "I can't go on. I might as well end it. I'm going to have a complete breakdown. This is more than I can handle," these statements deny the sufficiency of Christ's strength and power.
7. If you are in Christ, you have the supernatural strength and resurrection power of Jesus Christ living within you. You are complete in Christ.

Christ is our Buckler.

1. The word "buckler" means "to protect, shield." In Bible days, a buckler was a kind of shield, a piece of defensive armor used in war. It was very useful in causing stones and darts to glance off.
2. Did you know that there is a spiritual armor that God has provided for Christians today? This armor is seen in **Ephesians 6:13-17**. As you study this armor, do you know what you find? Every piece of this armor is a description of Christ.
 - Truth, righteousness, peace, salvation, the Word of God - Christ is all these things.
3. But there is one more and it correlates with this word "buckler." **Ephesians 6:16** - it is called the "*shield of faith*."
4. Did you know that Christ is our shield of faith against the attacks of Satan? Let's look at **Galatians 2:20**. How was Paul living his Christian life? By the faith of the Son of God. This is referring to the faithfulness and fidelity of Christ.

5. When Satan attacks us with fiery darts (and it is in our minds that he attacks) and we try to take a shield of our own making, it will fail every time.
 - **Illustration:** If I try to overcome Satan by pointing to my good works, my goodness, my faithfulness, my righteousness. I say things like, "I'm a good person, I'm not as bad as some, I do a lot of good things, I go to church, I serve the Lord in a ministry, etc." When I do this, the fiery darts of Satan will penetrate every time.
 - Satan can always poke holes through this defense. He will remind you of every failure, every short-coming, etc.
6. Remember this - when spiritual attacks come (and they will), your only buckler or shield is Christ. You point to Christ in you - His faith, His fidelity, His goodness, His righteousness that has been imputed to you by faith in Him.
 - Satan has no answer for this kind of shield.
7. Of course you cannot separate the Word made flesh (Christ) from the written Word. The Bible is a Book about Christ. It reveals Him. It shows us what we have in Him. Your buckler is Christ in you as revealed in His Word. You stand upon the facts of His Word.

Christ is our Power.

1. David calls the Lord "*the horn of my salvation.*" In the Bible, the "horn" is used figuratively for power. For many animals, this was their source of power - their horns. You have heard the expression, "They locked horns."
2. Christ is our power in two ways:
 - Christ is our power unto salvation. **Romans 1:16; Acts 4:12; 1 Corinthians 1:18**
 - Christ saves from the penalty of sin.
 - Christ is our power unto sanctification. **Ephesians 1:19, 3:20**
 - This refers to living a life that glorifies Christ after we are saved. Christ saves us from the dominating power of sin that would entangle us and bring us into bondage.
3. Christ is the horn of our salvation. He is our power over sin. When we rely totally on Him, we are victorious. He is all-sufficient. We are complete in Him.

Christ is our High Tower.

1. A "high tower" in Bible days spoke of a high, lofty, inaccessible place; a refuge.
2. What have we been teaching for the last two weeks? God has given you a position in His Son. If you have trusted Christ as your Savior, you are now "in Christ." **Ephesians 1:3**
3. Can Satan change who you are in Christ? Absolutely not - when you were saved, you were given a position in Christ that is high and lofty. **Ephesians 2:5-6**
4. Satan's only hope is to try to get you to depend upon and trust something other than Christ and who God has made you in Christ. As long as Christ is your refuge that you trust in totally and in all situations, Satan is helpless. Christ is your high tower that is inaccessible to Satan.
5. God has made you complete in Christ! Isn't it wonderful!

In Conclusion:

1. David had to look to circumstances in the Old Testament to see who God was, but today God has fully revealed Himself to us (through His Word) and who He has made us in Christ.
2. What should be our response to this wonderful provision that we have in Christ?
 - Love Christ. vs. 1
 - Trust Christ. vs. 2
 - Call upon Him. vs. 3