

Psalm 18:1-3

Lancaster Baptist Church
Wednesday March 18, 2020
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Title: A Reliable Hope

"I will love thee, O LORD, my strength. 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. 3 I will call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised: so shall I be saved from mine enemies." (Psalm 18:1-3)

1. INTRODUCTION

"What time I am afraid, I will trust in thee." (Psalm 56:3)

2. His Provision Is Reliable

"It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. 23 They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness." (Lamentations 3:22-23)

a. His Presence abides with Us ^(stays with us)

• TO PROTECT US

"The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer;" (Psalm 18:2)

"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." (Psalm 46:1-2)

• TO GO WITH US

"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: 20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen." (Matthew 28:19-20)

b. His Provision sustains Us

"The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord: and he delighteth in his way. 24 Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down: for the Lord upholdeth him with his hand. 25 I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread. 26 He is ever merciful, and lendeth; and his seed is blessed." (Psalm 37:23-26)

"Thou visitest the earth, and waterest it: thou greatly enrichest it with the river of God, which is full of water: thou preparest them corn, when thou hast so provided for it." (Psalm 65:9)

"But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:19)

c. His Perception Guides Us

"If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. 6 But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed." (James 1:5-6)

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

3. His Promises Are Reliable

Quote: "The future is as bright as the promises of God."—**Adoniram Judson**

a. The names of His Promises

• THE PROMISE OF STRENGTH

"I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." (Philippians 4:13)

• THE PROMISE OF HIS GREATNESS OVER SATAN

"Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world." (1 John 4:4)

• THE PROMISE OF HIS CARE FOR US

"Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you." (1 Peter 5:7)

Quote: "God has not promised skies always blue, flower-strewn pathways all our life through; God has not promised sun without rain, joy without sorrow, peace without pain. But God has promised strength for the day, rest for the labor, and light for the way; grace for the trials, help from above, unfailing sympathy, undying love."—**Annie J. Flint**

b. The nature of His Promises

○ INFALLIBLE - makes no mistakes

"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?" (Numbers 23:19)

○ IMMUTABLE - does not change

"For I am the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed." (Malachi 3:6)

"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning." (James 1:17)

Quote: "God in His nature, attributes, and counsels is unchanging; for these belonging to an Infinite Being, are absolutely perfect and therefore admit of no possible variation."—**Emery Bancroft**

○ ETERNAL - ever living

"Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away." (Luke 21:33)

"For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven." (Psalm 119:89)

"Concerning thy testimonies, I have known of old that thou hast founded them for ever." (Psalm 119:152)

"Thy word is true from the beginning: and every one of thy righteous judgments endureth for ever." (Psalm 119:160)

- Jesus paid for my sins by giving His life on the cross

4. His Payment Is Reliable

a. The cost of His Payment

- PRECIOUS blood of Jesus

"Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; 19 But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:" (1 Peter 1:18-19)

"In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:" (Colossians 1:14)

"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." (Colossians 1:20)

- EXCLUSIVE name of Jesus

"And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. 12 He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life." (1 John 5:11-12)

b. The covering of His Payment

- COVERING FOR SIN

"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; 24 Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: 25 Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to

declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;" (Romans 3:23-25)

- COVERING FOR SIN'S PENALTY

"For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." (Romans 6:23)

5. CONCLUSION

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you," (1 Peter 1:3-4)

Pictures of the covering

1. Ark with Noak
- covered with tar
2. Ark of the Covenant
- mercy seat covered with blood under the wings of cherubim
3. Veil covered door to Holy of Holies in the temple