

I. Introduction: Our final studies in II Samuel will cover two great Psalms of David.

- A. Why does God reveal Himself to us in Psalms?
- B. Why are these two Psalms of David placed at the end II Samuel? 22:1-51 23:1-7
 - 1. These Psalms of David correspond to the song of Hannah to frame the whole collection (I and II Sam. were originally one long book). I Sam. 2:1-10
 - 2. The songs of Hannah and David poetically summarize the key theological teachings of I and II Samuel: deliverance, Messiah. I Sa. 2:10 II Sam. 22:51 23:1
- C. II Samuel 22 is a Royal Psalm of Thanksgiving (and is almost identical to Psalm 18).
- D. David's Psalm is sung in three part harmony.
 - 1. David sings of his own life experience.
 - 2. Jesus sings this Psalm; some parts are only fully true of Him. 22:21ff Lu. 24:44
 - 3. We can sing this Psalm of deliverance.

II. A summary of praise to the LORD. v. 1-4

- A. Introduction: David wrote this song to honor the LORD Who delivered Him. v. 1
 - 1. The song summarizing David's illustrious life gives glory to the LORD, rather than merely extolling King David. Ex. 15:1ff
 - 2. David can look back upon many occasions of deliverance -- from Saul, from foreign enemies, and from rebels in Israel. 22:18,49
- B. The LORD is a great Savior. v. 2-3 Ps. 31:3 91:2 Gen. 15:1 I Sam. 2:1,2,10
- C. Summary: I call upon the LORD Who saves me from my enemies. v. 4 Gen. 12:8 Isa. 55:6 Ro. 10:12 Ps. 86:3,5,7
- D. Jesus sings: God has raised up a horn of salvation for His people. Luke 1:68-69
- E. We sing: When God delivers us, we owe Him praise.

III. God delivered me from deadly trouble. v. 5-20

- A. I was overwhelmed with distress. v. 5-6
 - 1. The Psalmist's desperate need is vividly described. Ps. 116:3 88:7,17 Jonah 2:3,5
 - 2. David sings of his own experience. 15:14 21:16 I Sam. 20:3 23:8
 - 3. Jesus also experienced great suffering and distress. John 1:10-11 12:27 Lu. 22:44
 - 4. We should expect afflictions in this life. I Pe. 4:12 II Tim. 3:12 Luke 12:52
- B. I cried out to the LORD for help and He heard. v. 7 Ex. 2:23 Ps. 50:15
 - 1. Where is the temple from which the LORD heard David's voice? Ps. 11:4 Is. 6:1ff
 - 2. Jesus also cried out to God His Father. Heb. 5:7-8 Mt. 26:38-39 27:46
 - 3. We are invited to call upon Him in our distress. I Pe. 5:7 Mt. 11:28ff Heb. 13:6
- C. The LORD rushed to my aid. v. 8-16 Ps. 97:1ff 68:7ff Is. 64:1ff Hab. 3:3ff
 - 1. David uses vivid poetic language to express how God powerfully responds to the cry of His loved one. Ex. 15:6ff Acts 2:19-20 Joel. 2:28ff Is. 24:18f Job. 41:19ff

2. God comes in judgment against those who endanger and oppress his people.
3. God answered David's cries.
4. Nature was in tumult at Christ's coming to deliver us. Mt. 2:2 27:45,51-54 28:2
5. When Jesus returns for our final deliverance, the earth will be shaken.
Mt. 24:29ff Joel 2:28ff Mal. 4:1-3 II Pe. 3:10 Rev. 6:12ff 11:13ff
6. The LORD hears and helps us. Acts 4:31 16:26 Mt. 7:7 Dan. 9:20ff Jer. 33:3

D. The LORD delivered me. v. 17-20a

1. The LORD dramatically rescued David. Ex. 2:10 Ps. 18:17
2. Jesus was not abandoned to Sheol (the grave) but was raised from the dead and exalted at the Father's right hand. Acts 2:24ff Heb. 5:7
3. God powerfully intervenes in our lives.

IV. Why does the LORD deliver? v. 20b-25

A. David proclaims that the LORD has rewarded his righteous obedience. v. 20b-25

1. David was delivered because the LORD delighted in him. v. 20b I Sam. 13:14
2. How can this be true, in light of David's great sin? 11:1ff 24:1ff Ps. 32:1ff 51:1ff
3. David's life, though not perfect, was characterized by obedience to God. 8:15
I Ki. 15:5 14:8 9:4
4. When David did sin he humbly repented. 12:13 24:10,17 Ps. 32 51
5. *There is a God-pleasing righteousness according to the law that doesn't fall into pride or hypocrisy.* Luke 1:5-6 2:25 23:50 Mt. 1:18 Acts 10:22 Gen. 6:9 Job 1:1
6. The LORD rewarded David's faithful obedience. I Sam. 26:23-24 Ps. 66:18-19
Deut. 28:1ff Lev. 26:1ff
7. The LORD didn't hear or rescue disobedient Saul. v. 42 I Sam. 28:6

B. Only Jesus can say, without any qualification, that He has been rewarded according to His righteousness. Ps. 24:3-5

1. The Father delighted in Jesus. Mt. 27:43 Ps. 22:8
2. He is the Righteous One Who perfectly performed His Father's will. John 8:29
15:10 Acts 3:14 7:52
3. He never sinned. I Pe. 1:19 II Co. 5:21 Heb. 4:15
4. He is rewarded for His righteousness. Acts 2:33 Rom. 1:4 Isa. 53:11-12

C. In what sense can we sing these words with David and with Jesus?

1. None of us is righteous enough to merit God's favor. Rom. 3:10ff,20 Eph. 2:1ff
2. The LORD rewards us with salvation because of what Jesus has accomplished for us as our representative. Rom. 5:19 II Co. 5:21 I Pe. 3:18
3. We receive God's perfect righteousness through faith alone. Gen. 15:6 Phil. 3:9
Eph. 2:8-9 Gal. 3:10-11
4. David also needed the grace and forgiveness which would come through Christ.
Ps. 32:1ff Rom. 4:6-8 3:23-26
5. Yet it is also true that those who follow Christ should live lives characterized by holy obedience. Eph. 1:4ff Mark 8:34ff John 14:15 Js. 2:14ff Titus 2:11-15
6. God blesses and honors the practical moral obedience of His people. I Pe. 3:12
Ps. 37:11 Mt. 5:5 25:14-46 Heb. 6:10
7. Ultimately, God rewards us for His work in us. Eph. 2:10

V. Concluding Applications.

- A. When in need you should call upon the LORD. v. 4 Isa. 55:6f Ro. 10:17
- B. Those who have been delivered should praise God with great exuberance.

Discussion questions

- 1. Why are these Psalms placed at the end of II Samuel?**
- 2. How do these Psalms relate to Hannah's song in I Samuel 2:1-10?**
- 3. Why does God speak through Psalms?**
- 4. What is the typical pattern of a Psalm of Thanksgiving?**
- 5. Explain how this Psalm could be sung by David, by Jesus and by you.**
- 6. What is the significance of the ninefold description of the LORD in verse 2-3?**
- 7. Of what events might David have been thinking as he wrote verses 5-7?**
- 8. Explain the power of the figures of the LORD's coming in verses 8-16.**
- 9. Why did the LORD deliver David? v. 20b-24**
How can He say this in light of David's sin?
- 10. In what two senses can we sing verses 21-24 of ourselves?**
- 11. Has God rescued you? If so, what should you do in imitation of David?**