

Evening Sermon Outline – March 3, 2019

“Divine Deliverance” - Psalm 18:4-19

I. Surrounded and hounded by death -

⁴ **The pangs of death surrounded me, And the floods of ungodliness made me afraid. ⁵ The sorrows of Sheol surrounded me; The snares of death confronted me. Psalm 18:4-5**

1. This is the case of all of us since Adam –

¹⁷ **but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die. Genesis 2:17**

²³ **For the wages of sin is death ... Romans 6:23 A**

2. Death comes in a variety of ways –

³ **When He opened the second seal, I heard the second living creature saying, “Come and see.” ⁴ Another horse, fiery red, went out. And it was granted to the one who sat on it to take peace from the earth, and that *people* should kill one another; and there was given to him a great sword. Revelation 6:3-4**

⁷ **When He opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature saying, “Come and see.” ⁸ So I looked, and behold, a pale horse. And the name of him who sat on it was Death, and Hades followed with him. And power was given to them over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword, with hunger, with death, and by the beasts of the earth. Revelation 6:7-8**

II. Crying to the LORD -

⁶ **In my distress I called upon the LORD, And cried out to my God; He heard my voice from His temple, And my cry came before Him, *even* to His ears. Psalm 18:6**

Verse 6.—“In my distress.” If you listen even to David’s harp, you shall hear as many hearse-like airs as carols; and the pencil of

the Holy Spirit hath laboured more in describing the afflictions of Job than the felicities of Solomon. Prosperity is not without many fears and distastes; and adversity is not without comforts and hopes. We see, in needleworks and embroideries, it is more pleasing to have a lively work upon a sad and solemn ground, than to have a dark and melancholy work upon a lightsome ground; judge, therefore, of the pleasures of the heart by the pleasures of the eye. Certainly virtue is like precious odours—most fragrant when they are crushed; for prosperity doth best discover vice, but adversity doth best discover virtue.—*Francis Bacon, Baron of Verulam, Known as the father of modern science, 1561–1626.*

Verse 6.—“I called upon the Lord and cried.” Prayer is not eloquence but earnestness; not the definition of helplessness, but the feeling of it; it is the cry of faith to the ear of mercy.—Hannah Moore, 1745–1833

III. God’s powerful response –

1. His extreme anger at unrighteousness -

⁷ **Then the earth shook and trembled; The foundations of the hills also quaked and were shaken, Because He was angry. ⁸ Smoke went up from His nostrils, And devouring fire from His mouth; Coals were kindled by it. Psalm 18:7-8**

A. We will see such wrath from God when Christ returns –

¹² **I looked when He opened the sixth seal, and behold, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became like blood. ¹³ And the stars of heaven fell to the earth, as a fig tree drops its late figs when it is shaken by a mighty wind. ¹⁴ Then the sky receded as a scroll when it is rolled up, and every mountain and island was moved out of its place. ¹⁵ And the kings of the earth, the great men, the rich men, the commanders, the mighty men, every slave and every free man, hid themselves in the caves and in the rocks of the mountains, ¹⁶ and said to the mountains and rocks, “Fall on us and hide us from the face of Him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb!**

¹⁷ For the great day of His wrath has come, and who is able to stand?" Revelation 6:12-17

B. This too is in answer to the prayers of Saints –

⁹ When He opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain for the word of God and for the testimony which they held. ¹⁰ And they cried with a loud voice, saying, "How long, O Lord, holy and true, until You judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?" ¹¹ Then a white robe was given to each of them; and it was said to them that they should rest a little while longer, until both *the number of their fellow servants and their brethren, who would be killed as they were, was completed.* Revelation 6:9-11

2. His extreme power to move and judge –

⁹ He bowed the heavens also, and came down With darkness under His feet. ¹⁰ And He rode upon a cherub, and flew; He flew upon the wings of the wind. ¹¹ He made darkness His secret place; His canopy around Him *was* dark waters *And* thick clouds of the skies. ¹² From the brightness before Him, His thick clouds passed with hailstones and coals of fire. Psalm 18:9-12

²¹ And great hail from heaven fell upon men, *each* hailstone about the weight of a talent. Men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail, since that plague was exceedingly great. Revelation 16:21

3. The prophecy and history of His powerful judgment -¹³

The LORD thundered from heaven, And the Most High uttered His voice, Hailstones and coals of fire.

¹⁴ He sent out His arrows and scattered the foe, Lightnings in abundance, and He vanquished them. ¹⁵ Then the channels of the sea were seen, The foundations of the world were uncovered At Your rebuke, O LORD, At the blast of the breath of Your nostrils. Psalm 18:13-14

¹⁷ God is never at a loss for weapons. Woe be unto him that contendeth with his Maker! C.H. Spurgeon

4. A dramatic salvation accomplished -

¹⁶ He sent from above, He took me; He drew me out of many waters. ¹⁷ He delivered me from my strong enemy, From those who hated me, For they were too strong for me. ¹⁸ They confronted me in the day of my calamity, But the LORD was my support. ¹⁹ He also brought me out into a broad place; He delivered me because He delighted in me. Psalm 18:4-19

A. Many potential ways to die - :16

B. Strong enemy – :17

• *For David it was Saul*

• *For us it is Satan & sin –*

¹⁰ Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. ¹¹ Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. ¹² For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*. ¹³ Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Ephesians 6:10-13

C. Who are the they in David's life? We are blessed to have godly "they" in our lives

D. But the LORD

• *Support*

• *Brought to a broad place (Heaven is even more)*

• *Deliverance because of delight -*

***Delight is in Christ - ¹⁷ And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."* Matthew 3:17**

³⁵ The Father loves the Son, and has given all things into His hand.

³⁶ He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him." John 3:35-36

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