

- by submitting himself anew and afresh to his God, to God's rule in his mind, heart and life.
2. "So David *inquired at the LORD...*" 30:8
 - a. David is "calling upon the LORD in his day of trouble" !
 - b. David is praying to the LORD God exclusively!
 - c. David is seeking God's will in this situation.
 - 30:8 "...Shall I pursue this troop? Shall I overtake them? "
 - He wants to know what God wants him to do.
 - d. Here is the beginning of "God's promised deliverance" from David's day of trouble – "...*He* (God) *answered him, 'Pursue, for you shall surely overtake them and without fail recover all.'*"
 3. "So David *went...*" 30:9
 - a. God then proceeded to guide David through and to the particular deliverance that He (God) had chosen and just promised to David, 30:11-19
 - b. Notice the difference in the manner in which God delivered King Hezekiah in his day of trouble **from** the manner in which God delivered David in this day of trouble.
 - King Hezekiah was passive in this deliverance.
 - David was active in this deliverance, but it was still the LORD's deliverance.
 - Remember that God's promised deliverance of His redeemed people who call upon Him in their day of trouble, is free to take whatever form or manner that God sovereignly chooses. But in all cases, the God-promised deliverance and result will be fulfilled (accomplished) !
 4. "So David *recovered all...*" 30:18, 19 – the fulfillment of "God's promised deliverance"
 5. David "glorified the LORD" – 30:23 – praise given - "*But David said, 'My brethren, you shall not do so with what the LORD has given us, who has preserved us and delivered into our hand the troop that came against us'.*" Here is the fulfillment of God's promised result – "...*and you shall glorify Me.*" Psa.50:15

III. Closing Remarks

- A. To Believers: Psalm 50:15 belongs to you !! Hide it in your heart!
- B. To Unbelievers: Psalm 50:15 does not belong to you, but it can belong to you by the transforming work of God's free grace in your mind, heart and life. Call upon Him today for His salvation!

Handling Days of Trouble-David

Ps.50:15; I Sam.30:1-19

Introduction: Our text, Psalm 50:15, is one of those "exceedingly great and precious promises" – "*Call upon Me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify Me.*"

Review: Psalm 50 was spoken to all those "professing" to be God's people (50:7). The purpose for which Psalm 50 was written, was to point out Israel's unacceptable addiction to outward ceremonies alone and to encourage them to embrace that which constitutes true and acceptable worship – the spiritual aspects of worship, of which praise (50:23) and prayer (50:15) are a part.

Review: We have observed the truth of Ps.50:15 in the life of King Hezekiah, when God's judgment against the nation of Israel came to his city of Jerusalem and threatened its destruction. But does this blessed promise apply when 'the day of trouble' we face, is the result of our own, personal disobedience to God's revealed word? (Answer: YES)

I. This Promise Explained

A. The Gracious Command

1. The Command: "*Call upon Me...*"
 - a. The duty is pray to the LORD God exclusively.
 - b. The duty is to pray to the LORD God Biblically; that is, in the manner that He has prescribed in His written word – cf. I Jn.5:14; Mk.11:24; Phil.4:6; Jn.14:13, 14; Jas.4:3; I Pet.4:19; Matt.5:23 and I Pet.3:7b
2. The Time Specified: "...*in the day of trouble...*"
 - a. NOT conditioned upon whether that day of trouble came in the path of obedience to God or in the path of disobedience to God (as is David's case, which we will be considering today.)
 - b. NOT limited to big (major) troubles or small (minor) troubles.
 - c. NOT limited in the number of troubles to which this promise applies

B. The Exceedingly Great and Precious Promise: "...*I will deliver you, ...*"

1. God, in His instructions to all believers, adds this promise to the duty of prayer to encourage them in this duty. (Guard against wrong impressions – Note that God does not say

HOW He will accomplish His promised deliverance. cf. Dan.3:17, 18

2. This verse is well fitted to comfort believers when weak and fearful, as well as when sinful and needy.
 - a. When God has withdrawn the outward marks of His favor (e.g. the presence of a powerful enemy and the seeming impossibility to repel that enemy's attack), a doubt is apt to steal into the believer's mind whether or not God really cares for the believer's salvation (about them personally)
 - b. When we (as believers) have knowingly and deliberately gone against God's revealed will, a doubt may enter the believer's mind as to whether or not God will really hear and heed their cry (call) for help in 'their day of trouble'.
3. Summary: The promise given to believers in Ps.50:15, is that God **will always deliver** those (believers) who are diligent in praying exclusively to the LORD in their day of trouble > N.T. parallel: I Cor.10:13

C. The Promised Result: "...you shall glorify Me."

1. The chief end of man is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever.
2. Ps.50:15 sets forth one of the ways by which believers glorify their God – by calling upon Him in their day of trouble.
Biblical Prayer acknowledges and exalts God's:
 - a. Supremacy and Sovereignty – by manifesting subjection to God, trust in God and dependency upon God
 - b. Providence – by being content with His most holy, wise and powerful preserving and governing all His creatures and all their actions.
 - c. Goodness – by knowing that His delight is in being merciful; and that He especially delights in manifesting His love to and for His redeemed children
 - d. Truthfulness – by being confident that He will always be faithful and true to His own holy nature and to His given word (especially His promises to His elect people)
3. The Promised Result given to believers in Ps.50:15, is that **God is glorified when His people pray** exclusively to Him in their day of trouble, relying upon God's promise to deliver them.

II. This Promise Illustrated in David's Life, I Sam. 30:1-25

A. David's Day of Trouble Described, 30:1-3

1. Ziklag, the home of David and his men, had been burned with fire by the Amalekites, 30:1

- a. Where was Ziklag located? Ans.: In the land of the Philistines – a town in the country, I Sam.27:1a, 5, 6b
- b. How did David come to live there?! Ans.: **by his own despair; and taking matters into his own hands** - cf. I Sam.27:1-6
- c. How long did David and his men live in Ziklag? Ans.: 1 full year and 4 months – cf. I Sam. 27:7
 - o David was required to **live a lie** all the time he was there; notice that David DID NOT ask God's approval of this plan – cf. 27:8-12
 - o Did David's plan work?
 - Yes, initially and superficially – temporary relief from the relentless pursuit of King Saul
 - No, spiritually – there is no record of David having communion with God during this time – cf. I Sam.27-29

2. What emotionally-draining dilemma had David and his men just escaped? Ans.: being required to go to battle with the Philistines to fight against Israel, God's chosen nation and David's own beloved countrymen – cf. I Sam. 28:1, 2; 29:1, 2
 - a. David was caught in the web of his own lies! cf. Gal.6:7; Num.32:23; Prov.14:12
 - b. What were David and his men, going to do?!?
 - c. **Behold God's unsolicited mercy** to David and his men, 29:3-11!

B. David's and his men's Initial Response, 30:4-6a

C. David's Subsequent Response to this day of trouble, 30:6b-25

1. "...but David **strengthened himself in the LORD, his God.**" 30:6b
 - a. NOW this is sounding more like the David we know and love – a man after God's own heart!
 - b. HOW did David do this? Answer:
 - o **by remembering the character of God** – Exod.34:6, 7a; Ps.86:5 (was written by David)
 - o **by confessing his sins of despair, of disobedience to God's word** (I Sam.21:5), **of lying, of relying upon himself**, and of his own **deceitful scheming**.
 - o **by relying upon God's word particularly given to David** (about being the next king of Israel)
 - o **by unashamedly owning his God-given relationship to the LORD God** – 30:6b "...in the LORD **his God.**"