

## A SONG OF DELIVERANCE

## I. Text – Psalm 18:3

II. This Psalm was written to describe some personal experiences which David passed through during those dark and difficult years when he was hunted like a game of prey on the mountains. “At times he despaired of his own life, and became so discouraged that he felt there was no help for him. In his great distress he looked up and realized that God was the answer to his problems. This Psalm explains the mighty deliverance that God worked in David’s life.

The story is told that in the year 176 the Romans were in a battle against the Gauls. Being encircled by the enemy the Romans were in a desperate situation...the commander informs Aurelius that the Militine Legion are Christians and believe in the power of prayer. They were instructed to pray. As soon as they arose from their knees, a storm broke over the country side. Hail and lightening drove the Gauls from their trenches. The Romans were blessed with a gentle rain. The praying legion was called from this time on, The Thundering Legion” (*Gray & Adams, Chronicles-Proverbs, p. 477*).

## BODY

## I. Praising - Psalm 18:1-3

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A. David recognized God as His answer. In verse 2 eight terms are used that are suggestions of a dynamic delivering God.

1. For refuge, He is my Rock.
2. For protection, He is my fortress.
3. For oppression, He is my deliverer.
4. For worship, He is my God.
5. For Weakness, He is my strength.
6. For defense, He is my buckler.
7. For power, He is my horn.
8. For prospect, He is my High Tower.

H.A. Ironside describes a fortress on a high hill a tower on the wall and the enemy exposed in the valley below. He also told of taking refuge in a cave from a fierce storm.

B. David's response to this revelation of God was to love Him and praise Him. To love Him is to give the best of myself to Him. To praise Him is to acknowledge His worthiness.

## II. Calling – Psalm 118:6

A. When a man is in the kind of distress (vv 4-5) that David was in, he has no hope of saving himself by any work that he can do, or by anything he can give. Jonah in the belly of the whale is a good example of this kind of situation.

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B. Psalm 145:18 says that the Lord is near to all who call on Him in truth. In Jeremiah 33:3 the Lord invited His people to call and He promises to answer. Romans 10:12-13 says the Lord richly blesses all who call on Him and whosoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.

## III. Receiving – Psalm 118:9-24

A. God answered David's cry and ministered to him. Verse 6 says that the Lord heard David's cry. Verse 7 and following tell how God met David's need.

## B. How did God respond to David's cry?

1. Verse 9 – He came down. Man cannot go up so God goes down.
2. Verse 16 – He drew me out. Man must be submissive to His drawing power.
3. Verse 17 - He delivered me from my strong enemy.
4. Verse 19 – He brought me into a large place (eternal freedom).
5. Verse 19 – He delighted in me.
6. Verse 20 – He rewarded me.

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Conclusion

“O send me not away. For I would drink.  
E’en I, the weakest, at the fount of life;  
Chide not my steps, that venture near to brink,  
Weary and fainting from the deadly strife.

Went I not forth undaunted and alone,  
Strong in the majesty of human might?  
Lo! I return, all wounded and forlorn,  
My dream of glory lost in shades of night.

Was I not guided for the battlefield?  
Bore I not helm of pride and glittering sword.  
Behold the fragments of my broken shield,  
And lend to me Thy heavenly armor, Lord.”