

Eleutheros Newsletter

November 2020

News of Interest

The holiday season is approaching!

May we give thanks unto our God for the many blessing He has given us!

Feel free to check out the offerings of this ministry:

[*The Ramifications of Our Salvation*](#) explains what happens Biblically when a believer is saved by God's grace.

[*Bible Translations: A Closer Look*](#) explains why the wording is so different in various Bible translations and offers practical suggestions for effective Bible study.

[*Spiritual Gifts Verse by Verse: A Commentary on I Corinthians 12-14*](#) is a thoroughly Biblical look at an issue confronting Christianity today.

[*A Portrait of Jesus*](#) allows the reader to understand our Savior from eternity past to eternity future.

[*The Case for the Resurrection of Jesus Christ*](#) gives a commentary on every verse in the New Testament that makes reference to the greatest event in all of history!

19th Century Influences on 21st Century Christianity (coming soon!) explains why the Church of today is in the position that it is because of past developments.

Learn more at www.eleutherosbooks.com

Thoughts from the Psalms

[Psalm 20](#)

1 *The Lord hear thee in the day of trouble; the name of the God of Jacob defend thee.*

Many feel this Psalm of David originally intended these words to be read by Israel's choir director. Notice that David is praying for him ("The Lord hear thee"). His prayer is for help in time of trouble and defense against Israel's enemies. Notice also the words "name of the God of Jacob." There is something about the names(s) of God that no other name(s) possess! By mentioning "the God of Jacob" David is reminding the choir director of how Jacob, who early in life had been so far from God, was so blessed once he believed!

2 *Send thee help from the sanctuary, and strengthen thee out of Zion.*

David believed in praying for others (intercessory prayer)! His prayer is for God's help to come while the choir director is ministering in the sanctuary and also that it come from God Who is in heaven!

3 Remember all thy offerings, and accept thy burnt sacrifice. Selah.

No doubt David appreciated the faithfulness of the choir director and prayed that God would bless him because of that faithfulness. The word "selah" is generally understood to be a musical interlude during which we do well to ponder what we have just heard, seen, or read. This was intended to be an encouragement for past service and an exhortation to continue his good work for God!

4 Grant thee according to thine own heart, and fulfil all thy counsel.

Micah asked an important question many years after David: *Do not my words do good to him that walketh uprightly* ([Micah 2:7](#))? The Apostle John offering similar thoughts: *And this is the confidence that we have in Him, that, if we ask any thing according to His will, He heareth us: And if we know that He hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of Him* ([I John 5:14-15](#)).

God blesses those who are serious about remaining close to Him!

5 We will rejoice in thy salvation, and in the name of our God we will set up banners: The Lord fulfil thy petitions.

David and the faithful in Israel were committed to rejoice when God blessed this man with deliverance (the meaning of "salvation"). The Apostle Paul encouraged believers to do the same: *Rejoice with them that do rejoice* ([Romans 12:15a](#)).

David also wanted to be sure to give glory to God and commemorate His goodness by "setting up banners" in His name. We must always remember not only to rejoice when others receive blessing, but also remember that the blessing came from our loving, omnipotent God!

6 Now know I that the Lord saveth His anointed; He will hear him from His holy heaven with the saving strength of His right hand.

In this verse David realizes that his prayer for his choir director/friend/fellow servant of God is not falling on deaf ears. He expresses great confidence (notice the words "know" and "saveth") that God's great strength and guiding hand ("right hand") will accomplish what is good (see [Romans 8:28](#))!

7 Some trust in chariots, and some in horses: but we will remember the name of the Lord our God.

This is a lesson David had learned early in life. When he confronted Goliath, having called him "an uncircumcised Philistine" ([I Samuel 17:26](#)), having asserted that God would give

him the victory ([1 Samuel 17:37](#)), and having refused even to wear protective armor ([1 Samuel 17:38-39](#)), he declared that *the Lord* (not anything or anyone else!) would produce the victory ([1 Samuel 17:46-47](#)).

God, of course, honored David's faith (see [1 Samuel 17:48-51](#)). May we learn to trust God, not military might alone!

8 They are brought down and fallen: but we are risen, and stand upright.

God's enemies face a horrible end, but His people who truly believe in Him, will enjoy the deliverance, wisdom, and strength that He provides so freely!

9 Save, Lord: let the King hear us when we call.

David's prayer now turns to his concern for all of the children of Israel. He desires that they remain faithful to God and enjoy His blessings.

He had expressed God's deliverance for him earlier in the Psalms: *I will not be afraid of ten thousands of people, that have set themselves against me round about. Arise, O Lord; save me, O my God: for Thou hast smitten all mine enemies upon the cheek bone; Thou hast broken the teeth of the ungodly* ([Psalm 3:6-7](#)).

Applications:

1. Intercessory prayer for others is so very important in the life of believers!
2. God honors those who honor Him!
3. Victories come from God alone!
4. Staying close to God provides confidence!

We will continue these thoughts from the Psalms in next month's newsletter.