

Psalm 18 - Is MY GOD Greater than my CALAMITY?

When I read this I was amazed by how many times he used the word MY in the first few verses Psa 18:1-3 ESV To the choirmaster. A Psalm of David, the servant of the LORD, who addressed the words of this song to the LORD on the day when the LORD rescued him from the hand of all his enemies, and from the hand of Saul. He said: I love you, O LORD, my strength. 2 The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold. 3 I call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised, and I am saved from my enemies.

David uses the word “MY” 39 times in this Psalm in the ESV version of the bible

- When we use the word MY - it indicates something that belongs to me, or something I acknowledge as mine, or something very important to me

In this psalm David talks about his trouble

- Vs 3 - **MY enemies** (mentioned 5 x - vs 1, 3, 6, 17 & 18)
- Vs 6 - **MY distress**
- Vs 18 - **The day of MY calamity**

We also say “my” when we talk about our trouble -- “my” pain, “my” suffering, “my” hardship, “my” failure”, “my” trouble, “my” EX, “my” heart attack, “my” bout with cancer, “my” unemployment, “my” bills, etc --

David also described the LORD using the term “MY”

- He said: I love you, O LORD, my strength. 2 The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold. 3 I call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised, and I am saved from my enemies.

Seems like in David’s life, HIS God was greater than his Calamity

- On this day he is addressing the LORD with the words of this psalm

What About you? -- Can you say “MY GOD” greater than “MY CALAMITY?”

- Identify any hardship, calamity, suffering you are going through - is it bigger than MY GOD?
- **How big is MY God?**
- **The key to David’s stability** in the midst of the enemy was his relationship with God

He had a very real, personal and interactive relationship with the LORD

Psa 18:1-3 ESV To the choirmaster. A Psalm of David, the servant of the LORD, who **addressed the words of this song** to the LORD **on the day when the LORD rescued him** from the hand of all his enemies, and from the hand of Saul. He said: **I love you, O LORD**, my strength.

- His relationship with the LORD was far from academic or intellectual
- He **recognized** God's hand in the rescue - he could say to his men "THE LORD RESCUED ME"
- He **immediately praised** Him "on the very day he was rescued"
- The very first words out of His mouth were "**I LOVE YOU**" O LORD my strength

The relationship meant that David's first response was to "call upon the LORD"

6 In my distress I called upon the LORD; to my God I cried for help. From his temple he heard my voice, and my cry to him reached his ears.

- In our distress we often say "**woe is me**", but David called upon the LORD
- To David there was nowhere else to turn --- VS 31 says **For who is God, but the LORD? And who is a rock, except our God?** --- one blessing of the modern age and living in America is we have so many places to turn - but the downside is we often fail or forget to call upon the LORD

That relationship meant that the cry of David's heart reached the ears of God

- In my distress **I called** - From his temple **He heard**

That relationship meant that the LORD acted on David's behalf

- **7 Then the earth reeled** and rocked; the foundations also of the mountains trembled and quaked, because he was angry.
- When you read vs 7-16 it sounds like the calvary is coming to the rescue - it is very descriptive of not only the power of God - but that he will stop at nothing to rescue His own

David sums it up like this: "He rescued me because He delighted in me"

17 He rescued me from my strong enemy and from those who hated me, for **they were too mighty for me. 18 **They confronted me in the day of my calamity**, but **the LORD was my support**. 19 He brought me out into a broad place; he rescued me, **because he delighted in me**.**

My prayer is that during these times of duress and hardship - we take ownership of more than our suffering - but we recognize God for who He truly is - so we can say - pray out loud together

I love you, O LORD, my strength. 2 The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold. 3 I call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised, and I am saved from my enemies.