

Part 2 – Deliverance from Floods of the Ungodly

In part 1 we learned that this is a Psalm David wrote when God delivered him out of all of his enemies, which were many throughout his life. And it's almost verbatim to 2 Sam 22 but he added the portion in the first verse - *I will love Thee, O Lord, my strength* – before turning it over to the people for public use in worshiping the 'chief Musician', which is Jesus Christ. And this is an important part because it points out that, when we love our Heavenly Father (YHVH) He does strengthen us internally. For David, this internal strength also gave him the physical strength to fight many battles and God will do that for us too, if need be (especially in self-defense). But the most important strength comes from *within us* – when His Holy Spirit touches our heart and mind and helps us to understand His truth (the Word of God) so we can see our own sins, repent for them and change who we are inside to be clean and righteous, *like He is*. And while we'll never be totally without sin in this flesh body, God considers us 'righteous' when we believe in the atoning (and cleansing) blood of Jesus Christ; because when we do, we won't be habitual sinners who rebel against Him.

We also learned of several analogies that David used to explain the spiritual strength that comes from believing in Jesus Christ. He is our 'Rock' because, when we believe on Him, we cannot be shaken from believing in Jesus Christ's virgin birth, sinless life, the blood He shed for our sins or His literally overcoming death through His resurrection. Nor will we be able to be shaken from any of the principles in the Word of God. And we also won't be fooled into sinning habitually. That's why David also likened God Almighty (and Jesus Christ) to a buckler (small shield) because faith in Jesus Christ (the truth, the Word of God) deflects all the 'fiery darts of the wicked', which are lies. That's also why he likened God (Jesus) to a 'high tower' and a 'fortress' for, when we trust in Him (God's Word and Jesus Christ) we are spiritually as strong as a fortified tower than cannot be taken down (with lies). This is also why God is our 'horn' of salvation; because, through Jesus Christ, God has given us the ability (the power) to overcome sin (Satan's deception and lies). David also taught us how to call upon the Lord (YHVH) for help: sincere faith in Jesus Christ is the key but we must also remember to give Him the praise for helping us because He is the one that saves us; and, He *always* saves us from our enemies when we are faithful to love and serve Him.

So, we now move on in this great chapter to learn more about how David called upon the Lord (YHVH) for help and *why*...

Psalm 18

4 The sorrows of death compassed me, and the floods of ungodly men made me afraid.

There were many times throughout David's life that he was compassed by floods of ungodly men who made him afraid. The word '**sorrows**' is the Hebrew word *chebel* (#2256), which means: **a rope** (as twisted), especially **a measuring line**; by implication, **a district or inheritance** (as measured); or **a noose** (as of cords); figuratively, **a company** (as if tied together); also **a throe** [**a hard or painful struggle**] (especially of parturition – i.e. childbirth); also **ruin**. And it comes

from *chabal* (#2254), a primitive root that means: **to wind tightly** (as a rope), i.e. **to bind**; specifically, **by a pledge**; figuratively, **to pervert, destroy**; also **to writhe in pain** (especially of parturition).

In other words, the ‘sorrows’ that David struggled with were not bodily pain but spiritual struggles from ungodly men who worked to hurt him, both physically (to kill him) and spiritually (to destroy his righteous character through lies, gossip, slander, etc.). And, at times, he felt he truly surrounded by them. Interestingly, the words ‘**ungodly men**’ is the same Hebrew word that’s often translated as ‘**men of belial**’ (beliya’ al #1100) which means: **without profit, worthlessness**; by extension, **destruction, wickedness**. You can read about the actions of ‘men of Belial’ (ungodly men) in Scriptures such as Deut 13:13, Judges 19:20, 20:13, 1 Sam 2:12, 25:25, 30:22, 2 Sam 20:1, 1 Kings 21:10-13, 2 Chron 13:7 to get a good ‘picture’ of them. Basically, it is anyone who fights against our Heavenly Father and His anointed (Jesus Christ and His followers). And in 2 Cor 6:14-16 Paul warns us not to ‘yoke up’ with these kinds of people because they are working against God’s anointed ‘One’, Jesus Christ. If we follow Jesus Christ, being ‘yoked’ up with (aligned with in any way) these sorts of people (ungodly people) will only bring trouble because they will work hard to keep us from serving Jesus Christ and *that’s* why we shouldn’t have any dealings with them. It’s ok (and good) to plant seeds of truth with them (with discernment) but we must be careful not to be a partaker with them. In 2 Thess 3:6, Paul even advises us to *withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly, and not after the tradition which he received of us*. And in his first letter to Timothy, he advises...

3 If any man teach otherwise, and consent not to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which is according to godliness;

4 He is proud, **knowing nothing, but doting about questions and strifes of words, whereof cometh envy, strife, railings, evil surmisings,**

5 Perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth, supposing that gain is godliness: **from such withdraw thyself.**

1 Tim 6:3-5

It simply doesn’t make any sense to align ourselves (especially *when* sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ) with anyone that does not believe in and serve Jesus Christ. They will only hinder our work for the Lord by causing us (through lies) to stray from the pure Gospel of Jesus Christ. And, as Paul said in 1 Tim 6:14, we are to keep the commandments of Jesus Christ **without spot**, so we may be *unrebukeable, until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ*. We simply cannot keep God’s Words ‘without spot’ (without falsehoods) if we align ourselves with those who are working contrary to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Now, this doesn’t mean we won’t have to work at a job with ungodly people, for there’s probably not a job in the world where it’s possible to do so. But we should still use great discernment in the workplace and other areas of life. Our primary purpose in life is to serve Jesus Christ but God knows we need a way to support ourselves and our family. So, the Holy Spirit will help us learn to work in a secular job without having to be ‘partakers’ with the ungodly.

Psalms 18

5 The sorrows of hell compassed me about: the snares of death prevented me.

David continues on to explain the troubles he had endured in his life and says the ‘sorrows of hell’ even compassed him about. What does this mean? The word ‘sorrows’ here is the same as it is in verse 4 so it means *a cord to tie something with*; one could even call it a ‘snare’ or a ‘trap’ in which to make us spiritually fall away from the true Gospel of Jesus Christ. This is why ‘traditions of man’ are so dangerous for they are perversions of the truth. Sadly, many ‘Churches’ don’t keep God’s Word ‘without spot’ but actually teach doctrines that are contrary to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. So, we must be very careful to check out what anyone teaches by examining their doctrines against the Word of God. A good example is when Paul took the Gospel of Jesus Christ to those in Berea; they received it with a ‘readiness of mind’ (eagerly) but also *sought out the scriptures daily, whether those things were so* (Acts 17:10-11). However, after Paul taught them there were men of Belial (ungodly men) who came in and tried hard to get them not to believe the Gospel of Jesus Christ; and that (sadly) caused some of them to fall from believing in the Gospel. We shouldn’t let anyone move our faith in Jesus Christ (the Word of God) no matter how ‘prestigious’ the Church or Pastor may be in the world. After you have ‘sought out the Scriptures’ and have been convicted by them, don’t waver from the truth the Holy Spirit opened your heart and mind to.

So, the ‘sorrows’ of hell are essentially lies (‘snares’ or traps’) which are used to make us spiritually fall away from the true Gospel of Jesus Christ. And the word ‘hell’ here is *she'owl* or *sheol* (#7585), which means: *Hades or the world of the dead (as if a subterranean retreat), including its accessories and inmates*. In other words, it’s the ‘bad’ part of the heavenly dimension. While we all came from that heavenly dimension - and will all go back to it when we depart from the flesh body (Ecc 12:6-7, 2 Cor 5, Lk 16) – we sure don’t want to go back to the ‘bad part’ (hell)! And those who are ‘bound for hell’ are those who deny Jesus Christ and work against Him and anyone serving Him. These wicked people work to trip up (spiritually) people who do believe in the true Gospel of Jesus Christ by continuing to lie so they can try and persuade us to give up our faith in Jesus Christ. That’s why David said the sorrows of hell compassed him. So many ungodly people (men of Belial) were consistently trying to persuade him to give up his faith in God and the promise of the Messiah (Jesus Christ) throughout his life that he truly felt surrounded by them, as if he was in hell itself! That’s why he then said *the snares of death prevented me*. The word ‘**prevented**’ here is much different than we think of it in the English. It’s *qadam* (#6923), a primitive root that means: **to project** (oneself), i.e. **precede**; hence, **to anticipate, hasten, meet** (usually for help). Thus, these wicked people were not only so numerous David felt surrounded by them (throughout his life) but they continued to try to persuade him to cast off his faith in God Almighty and the Messiah through conversations time and time again. Ever felt like that in your life? Likely so, for we too are in a world full of ungodly men (and women) who try to get us to participate in their ungodly lifestyles and way of thinking. As Paul said in 1 Cor 5:9-13, we would have to depart from this flesh life to get away from all the habitual sinners in the world; that’s how many there were in David’s day, Paul’s day and our own day as well. As David said back in Ps 14:1-3, there are many people who think there

is no God, are corrupt and do abominable works. When God looks down upon this world, He truly doesn't find all that many of His children that love and revere Him. But that does not thwart His plan of salvation for He has given Jesus Christ a thousand years (the Millennium) to teach His wayward children the difference between right and wrong, good and evil, clean and unclean. This will actually be the job of those who do make the first resurrection of eternal life (Ez 44, Rev 20). So, we shouldn't let the fact that we're surrounded by ungodly people impact us negatively. Just make sure not to partake in their foolishness and let the light of Jesus Christ shine through you in all that you do. As Paul said in Col 4:5-6: *Walk in wisdom toward them that are without, redeeming the time. Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man.*

Psalm 18

6 In my distress I called upon the LORD, and cried unto my God: he heard my voice out of his temple, and my cry came before him, even into his ears.

David now explains what he did in his life when he was surrounded by ungodly people. He *always* called upon the Lord (YHVH) for help. And, because David humbly and sincerely served our Heavenly Father, He always helped David through the hard times. As Psalms 11 told us...

4 The LORD is in his holy temple, the LORD's throne is in heaven: his eyes behold, his eyelids try, the children of men.

5 The LORD trieth the righteous: but the wicked and him that loveth violence his soul hateth.

6 Upon the wicked he shall rain snares, fire and brimstone, and an horrible tempest: this shall be the portion of their cup.

7 For the righteous LORD loveth righteousness; his countenance doth behold the upright.

Ps 11:4-7

We should always remember that God is still on His throne in heaven. So, what this means is that He still sees all that's going on in this wicked world. He can even see what is going on in the hearts (emotions, desires, intentions) and minds (thought process) of **all** His children – even the wicked ones and those who work iniquity. As such, He knows how *to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished*, as Peter said in 2 Peter 2:9. Further, Ps 103:19 even says: *the LORD hath prepared [set up, #3559] his throne in the heavens; and his kingdom ruleth over all*. So, not only does He see all that's going on but He is in control of it all. Therefore, we should not fret ourselves about the evil things wicked people do (Ps 37) but continue to trust in our Heavenly Father (Jesus Christ) and strive each day to better learn His Word and better obey His Word (with the guidance of the Holy Spirit). Remember also that Jesus Christ is in heaven, at God's 'right hand' and is interceding for us (Rom 8). So, anytime we need help, He hears us and will help us, so long as we keep our faith in Jesus Christ strong.

Psalm 18

*7 Then the earth **shook** and **trembled**; the foundations also of the hills moved and were **shaken**, because he was wroth.*

David now begins to tell us what our Heavenly Father has done at the response of those who are faithful to Him calling to Him for help. As the *Companion Bible* points out, the words from ‘shook’ to ‘shaken’ are a figure of speech called a ‘*Paronomasia*’. This is ‘rhyming words’ where there is a repetition of words similar in sound but not necessarily in sense (apx. 6). Of course, the words rhyme only in the Hebrew, not the English so we can’t fully grasp this unless we look up the words in the Hebrew. So, let’s take a look at the words ‘shook’, ‘trembled’, ‘moved’ and ‘shaken’. First off, the words ‘**shook**’ and ‘**shaken**’ are the same Hebrew word **ga` ash** (#1607), which means: *to agitate violently*. Secondly, the word ‘**trembled**’ is **ra` ash** (#7493), which means: *to undulate* (as the earth, the sky, etc.; also a field of grain), partic. *through fear*; specifically, *to spring* (as a locust). Lastly, the word ‘**moved**’ is **ragaz** (#7264), which means: *to quiver* (with any violent emotion, especially anger or fear).

So, in the Hebrew, you have: **ga` ash - ra` ash – ragaz - ga` ash**... so you can see how this rhymes in the Hebrew even if you are not fluent in Hebrew. We could even kind of translate this rhyme into the English as something like: ‘shaked’... ‘quaked’... and ‘shaked’... or ‘rocked’ and reeled’. While this information doesn’t necessarily help understand the context of what’s being said, it is interesting that David made what we would call a ‘play on words’ by using words that rhyme here. As Ecc 1:9 says, there’s nothing new under the sun for people still do this today. And our Heavenly Father did a similar thing in Isaiah 28:9-14 when He used the words of the ungodly against them (check out the notes in the *Companion Bible* in those verses for a more in-depth explanation).

So then, why did David say that God’s response to his call for help was to shake (agitate violently, #1607) the earth so it trembled (undulate, #7493) and moved (quivered, #7264)? In fact, the next several verses (7-15) will explain many physical actions that God performed in response to David’s call for help. And this is not the only place David describes such a thing. Psalms 97 and 104 are very similar. Was there ever a time God delivered David in this way? Let’s look at a few accounts from David’s life...

17 But when the Philistines heard that they had anointed David king over Israel, all the Philistines came up to seek David; and David heard of it, and went down to the hold. [Note they were not seeking to be his friend; this means they went to war with him]

18 The Philistines also came and spread themselves in the valley of Rephaim.

*19 And **David inquired of the LORD, saying, Shall I go up to the Philistines? wilt thou deliver them into mine hand? And the LORD said unto David, Go up: for I will doubtless deliver the Philistines into thine hand.***

20 And David came to Baal-perazim, and David smote them there, and said, The LORD hath broken forth upon mine enemies before me, as the breach of waters. Therefore he called the name of that place Baal-perazim.

21 And there they left their images, and David and his men burned them.

22 *And **the Philistines came up yet again**, and spread themselves in the valley of Rephaim.*

23 *And when David inquired of the LORD, he said, **Thou shalt not go up; but fetch a compass behind them, and come upon them over against the mulberry trees.***

24 *And let it be, when thou hearest the sound of a going in the tops of the mulberry trees, that then thou shalt bestir thyself: **for then shall the LORD go out before thee, to smite the host of the Philistines.***

25 *And David did so, as the LORD had commanded him; and smote the Philistines from Geba until thou come to Gazer.*

2 Sam 5:17-25

In this account we see that indeed, the Lord (YHVH) did ‘go out before’ David and ‘smote’ the army of the Philistines. In fact, God even gave David military instructions to hide his army by the mulberry trees and wait to hear ‘a sound’ going over the trees and then he could go out to fight. In other words, God led His ‘heavenly’ army to fight the Philistines *before* David and his army came following to ‘finish the fight’. Now, the Philistines were fierce warriors; and even though David and his army were mighty men of valor, there were still times when he needed God’s help. And God gave it, literally. And *we get great insight into what God’s army is like* in an account written in the Kings, which speaks of how a Syrian army surrounded the prophet Elisha with the intent of taking him back to the king *because* Elisha had been telling the king of Israel all of Syria’s battle plans and the king of Syria was (understandably) pretty upset about this.

When Elisha’s servant got up in the morning and saw the huge army surrounding them, he nearly freaked out. But Elisha was not worried. After all, he has already seen his predecessor, Elijah, be taken up to heaven by a ‘whirlwind’, which is a supernatural vehicle (like Ezekiel saw in chapters 1 and 10) that God, and His heavenly army, ‘fly’ in. But, because his servant was so worried about it, *Elisha prayed, and said, LORD, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see. And the LORD opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw: and, behold, **the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha.*** This army was in the other realm but they were still standing by, ready to fight for Elisha’s life if need be, because he was a true prophet of God. This should give us great comfort because, just as the servant couldn’t see the massive amount of troops that were literally standing close by, and were on alert ready to fight for him – so too do we have this kind of help if we ever need it (Mth 18:10). Further, this great angelic army (including God) even came down to Elisha (as 2 Kings 6:18) says. But, as it turned out, they didn’t have to fight because *Elisha prayed unto the LORD, and said, Smite this people, I pray thee, with blindness. And he smote them with blindness according to the word of Elisha* (as 2 Kings 6:18 also says). So, God does have an army in the heavenly realm and He does indeed use it, on occasion, in this realm (dimension), *when need be*. Elisha and David were both loyal servants of God Almighty – they were both anointed to serve Him. And that is why He kept a very close eye on them, insomuch that He even personally came to help them (with His army) at times they needed it. Again, He does this for us too if we’re faithful to Jesus Christ.

So, what David is describing in this Psalm (and this is an important point) is what he personally witnessed during those times God fought for him. David also likely had eye witness accounts (or

the knowledge was passed down to him) from times past when God literally fought for Israel. Such as in 1 Sam 7:7-13 when (vs 10) *the LORD thundered with a great thunder on that day upon the Philistines, and discomfited them; and they were smitten before Israel.* And there were also times that God literally fought for Israel even after died. For example, when the Assyrians took the northern ten tribes of Israel into captivity, they tried to also take Jerusalem. However, because there was actually a good king (Hezekiah) on the throne (of the southern kingdom of Judah), God helped them. As it is written...

32 Therefore thus saith the LORD concerning the king of Assyria, He shall not come into this city, nor shoot an arrow there, nor come before it with shield, nor cast a bank against it.

33 By the way that he came, by the same shall he return, and shall not come into this city, saith the LORD.

34 For I will defend this city, to save it, for mine own sake, and for my servant David's sake.

*35 And it came to pass that night, that **the angel of the LORD went out, and smote in the camp of the Assyrians an hundred fourscore and five thousand: and when they arose early in the morning, behold, they were all dead corpses.***

36 So Sennacherib king of Assyria departed, and went and returned, and dwelt at Nineveh.

37 And it came to pass, as he was worshipping in the house of Nisroch his god, that Adrammelech and Sharezer his sons smote him with the sword: and they escaped into the land of Armenia. And Esar-haddon his son reigned in his stead.

2 Kings 19:32-37

So, the Word of God definitely tells us that God can (and will at times) physically fight (in this dimension) for those who love and serve Him. And again, what David is describing in this Psalm (and remember, this is important) is what he *personally* witnessed during those times God fought for him. And this explains verse 7 quite well. The earth shook (agitated violently, #1607) and trembled (undulate, #7493) and moved (quivered, #7264). Even the ‘foundations’ of the hills were also moved and shaken from His fierce anger – because anyone who harms His anointed (His loyal servants) *really* *angers* God. It’s like they poke Him in the eye (Zech 2:8). But, one has to wonder what cause the earth to quake so much? The answer becomes clear when we consider what the vehicles God (and His angels who are in His army) ride in. As the children of Israel found on when God came down to the mountain on Pentecost day to give them the Ten Commandments, these vehicles can be quite loud and cause the earth to tremble greatly. It scared Israel so much they ran away from the mountain (Ex 19:16-19, 20:18-21; Ps 68:16-17). We’ll learn more about these mighty vehicles in a few verses.

But first, let us also remember that God shook the earth in an unprecedented way which has not been replicated (yet), when He destroyed the first earth age [learn more about this in the study on the **3 World Ages**: <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/190?single>]. That’s actually what Genesis 1:2 is speaks about, as well as Jer 4:23-24 and 2 Pt 3:5-6. Which is why Peter goes on to explain how God will again shake the earth when the true Jesus Christ returns *for, the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men* (2 Peter 3:7). And as Paul also explained...

25 See that ye refuse not him that speaketh. For if they escaped not who refused him that spake on earth, much more shall not we escape, if we turn away from him that speaketh from heaven:
26 **Whose voice then shook the earth:** but now he hath promised, saying, **Yet once more I shake not the earth only, but also heaven.** [he's quoting Hag 2 here]
27 And this word, Yet once more, signifieth the removing of those things that are shaken, as of things that are made, that those things which cannot be shaken may remain.
28 Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear:
29 For our God is a consuming fire.
Heb 12:25-29

Haggai 2 also speaks of this, as does Isaiah 24, Zech 14 and many other Scriptures. The world will shake and tremble in a way it has not since the destruction of the first earth age - when God deposed Satan and destroyed all that was in the world due to the rebellion Satan was leading. So, these verses David is describing also give us insight into what happened during the destruction of the first earth age, as well as what it'll be like when Jesus Christ returns. Let's, therefore, not forget the 'type' (of the future 'shaking) that's in this Psalms...

Psalms 18

8 *There went up a smoke out of his nostrils, and fire out of his mouth devoured: coals were kindled by it.*

The word 'smoke' here means: *issue* [a discharge from the body] or *human excrement* (tsa'ah #6627) and nostrils means exactly that: *the nose or nostril*; hence, *the face*, and occasionally a person; also (*from the rapid breathing in passion*) *ire* ('aph #639). This implies that when our Heavenly Father is angry, He does what many of us do when we're really mad; which is to sigh with anger by blowing your breath out of your nostrils. We are, after all, made in His image (Gen 1:26-27) and He therefore has feelings to (albeit His are always righteous). And anger (great wrath) at seeing His children harmed is one of the things that *greatly* angers Him, *especially* when they love and serve Him. Ex 15:1-8 even uses this analogy to explain how God fought against the Egyptian army when He brought the waters of the sea to drown them.

Now, concerning the 'fire' that comes out of His mouth: we've already learned in Jer 23:29 that God says: *Is not my word like as a fire? saith the LORD; and like a hammer that breaketh the rock in pieces?* And Deut 4:24, 9:3 and Heb 12:29 all tell us that *our God is a consuming fire*. And in Rev 19, when speaking of Jesus Christ's returns, we're told in vs 15 that: ***out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.*** And in Rev 20:1-3, we're also told that, when Jesus Christ returns, He will have Satan arrested and put in a pit for a thousand years. 2 Thess 2:8 also tells us that, at that time, *the Lord shall consume* [him – Satan] ***with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming.*** Indeed, God's Word is a spiritual fire because it's truth. And it destroys all the wicked because,

as, Psalms 1:5 taught us, the ungodly are *like the chaff which the wind driveth away*. Jesus elaborates on this in the parable of the tares, when He says...

*40 As therefore the tares are gathered **and burned in the fire**; so shall it be in the end of this world.*

*41 The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and **they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity**;*

*42 And **shall cast them into a furnace of fire**: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.*

43 Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.

Matt 13:40-43

However, this ‘fire’ is not a physical fire as we know it. It is a spiritual fire that burns to the very core of their soul, because they will be faced with truth as they never have been before and rebuked for their wickedness as they have never been before, as Isa 2:4 tells us: *and he shall judge among the nations, and **shall rebuke many people**: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.* Isa 66:15-16 also tells us that: *behold, **the LORD will come with fire, and with his chariots like a whirlwind**, to render his anger with fury, and his rebuke with flames of fire. For by fire and by his sword will the LORD plead with all flesh: and the slain of the LORD shall be many.* This is why the word ‘coals’ (here in Ps 18:8) means *to glow or kindle*; an ember (gechel #1513) and the word ‘kindled’ also means *to consume* by fire (ba`ar #1197). Which is why we’re told that the ‘Ancient of days’ *throne was like the fiery flame, and his wheels as burning fire* and a *fiery stream issued and came forth from before him* in Dan 7:9-10. This depiction also matches the description of Jesus Christ that we’re given in Rev 1:14-15, which says: *His eyes were as a flame of fire and his feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace.* So, while we only know of the fire in this physical realm, our Heavenly Father has a spiritual fire that is far more powerful. And it (like fire in this realm) can be used to warm and feed us (give us energy for life) or to destroy. That’s why His Word is likened to fire. It warms and nourishes the souls of those who love and serve Him but destroys the wicked. It was this kind of fire that burned in the bush that God spoke to Moses out of (Ex 3) which is why it did not consume the bush. And it is this fire that will destroy the souls of all incorrigible criminals (including Satan himself) in the ‘lake of fire’ (Rev 20). This is why God tells Satan...

*18 Thou hast defiled thy sanctuaries by the multitude of thine iniquities, by the iniquity of thy traffick; therefore will **I bring forth a fire from the midst of thee, it shall devour thee**, and I will bring thee to ashes upon the earth in the sight of all them that behold thee.*

19 All they that know thee among the people shall be astonished at thee: thou shalt be a terror, and never shalt thou be any more.

Ezek 28:18-19

So, David apparently had seen God so angry that His nostrils ‘flared’ and fire came out of His mouth and consumed whatever it touched. A form of this was also done back in the days of

Exodus when He sent *fire mingled with the hail* (Ex 9:24), which is described in Ps 78:49 as ‘hot thunderbolts’ that destroyed their cattle and flocks. This is also the kind of thing He’ll used when the first trump sounds, which will ‘burn up’ a ‘third part’ of the trees and all of the green grass, Rev 8:7 tells us. So, our Heavenly Father is not one to mess with! He not only knows how to light a fire within our soul but can do so also, in a very real sense, as Paul also explains...

7 And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels,

*8 **In flaming fire** taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:*

9 Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;

2 Thess 1:7-9

*6 **Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober.***

7 For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night.

8 But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation.

*9 **For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ,***

10 Who died for us, that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him.

11 Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do.

1 Thess 5:6-11

We’ll pick this up in part 3...

AMEN.