

Part 12 – Give Thanks to the Living God

In part 11 we continued to learn how God gave David the ability to subdue all of his enemies throughout all his life, and it was because David *always* stayed loyal to Him. Even though David was not without sin, he repented wholeheartedly and continued to seek God's will and strove to obey Him, never wickedly departing from God Almighty (Ps 18:21). When David first became king, Israel was being persecuted by many foreign nations due to Israel's rebellion against God. But, David cleaned up the government by making sure God's righteous laws were enforced and God blessed his military efforts insomuch that Israel conquered more territory under his rule than any other time in their history. Therefore, David's army conquered nations that were formerly impossible to overcome. Thus, Israel had many 'vassal' nations paying 'tribute' which gave Israel much wealth, along with prestige and power – all because David was *making* Israel obey God's Laws. And David also taught the people God's Word through the beautiful songs he wrote, many of which we have been studying. We also learned that David's life was an *excellent* type for how those who remain loyal to God will also be given power to 'subdue' their enemies, even when Satan is on the earth, for God will use them (as He did David) *to speak through*, to testify against Satan and all wicked leaders on the earth, even *before* Jesus Christ returns. But the total subduing of the enemy will indeed come when our King, Jesus Christ, returns to put *all* things in heaven, and earth, under His submission. Indeed, all people will be *forced* to 'bow a knee' to Him; *forced* to admit He has more power than them (and Satan) and *forced* to submit to His righteous rule for a thousand years. If they still want to be rebellious after that, then God will simply 'blot' them out of existence so they won't be around to cause trouble in eternity. That's the great promise we must keep our heart and mind steadfastly focused on, especially during the 'great tribulation' when Satan's on earth spewing lies to fool the world into worshipping him. But we are not done learning from this great Psalm. Let's see what else David has to say...

Psalm 18

46 The LORD liveth; and blessed be my rock; and let the God of my salvation be exalted.

David again points out that the Yehovah (YHVH) is a living God – and He is truly the only *living* God because He is the *only* One that has *always* existed and *always* will exist, as the meaning of His Sacred Name Yehovah (which David uses in this verse) declares (#3068). That's why Jesus says He is the *Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending... which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty* in Rev 1:8. Jeremiah also declares this in Jer 10:10 when he states: *the LORD (YHVH) is the true God, [because] he is the living God, and an everlasting king: at his wrath the earth shall tremble, and the nations shall not be able to abide his indignation.* Ps 96:4-5 also rightly declares: *the LORD (YHVH) is great, and greatly to be praised: he is to be feared above all gods. For all the gods of the nations are idols: but the LORD made the heavens.* Again, the Lord, Yehovah (YHVH) is indeed the Living God because He's always existed and always will; He is eternal. And He is indeed to be feared above all other 'gods' (we should worship Him only) because He's the one who made the heavens, earth and all that is them (Rev 4:11). All other 'gods' are 'idols' because they can only promise to give us things that we lust after but they cannot give us eternal life – only our Creator (YHVH) can. And,

because YHVH has made all that's in heaven and earth, He also has complete (total) control over it all. So, it's quite useless to worship any other god because we'll never be able to live eternally without our Heavenly Father. And David again likens the Lord (YHVH) to his 'Rock' (Deut 32, 1 Cor 10:4) and that's because He is the only one we can depend on to give us life everlasting *and* the protection from evil that we need so very much. That's why he calls for the God of his salvation (the One who saves us spiritually and physically) to be exalted. Indeed, the one and only true Living God should be exalted because (again) He has created everything and He alone gives us life. But He also deserves to be exalted (praised and worshiped) because of His holy character. All other 'gods' are not righteous nor holy (although they claim to be). Only Yehovah (YHVH) is *righteous in all his ways, and holy in all his works* (Ps 145:17) and His *righteousness is an everlasting righteousness*, and His law is the truth (Ps 119:142). He's also *gracious, and full of compassion; slow to anger, and of great mercy* (Ps 145:8). Ex 34:6 also declares that He is *merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth* and Deut 32:4 says *He is the Rock, his work is perfect: for all his ways are judgment: a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is he*. This is why we can trust Him and thus, why we should obey Him. He leads us in the path of life, and only when we have His Holy Spirit in our soul (protecting, cleaning and teaching us) can we truly experience the 'fulness of joy' and the pleasures that come from being at His right hand, through Jesus Christ (Ps 16:11).

Psalms 18

47 It is God that avengeth me, and subdueth the people under me.

As we've learned before, we shouldn't try to 'avenge' ourselves when someone does us wrong. While there's certainly times we might need to go to court to get justice on earth, if we cannot get justice on earth through legal means (because many courts are corrupted) we must trust that 'all wrongs will be made right' when Jesus Christ returns, and continue to strive to obey God's Word even when we are 'done wrong' in this life. So long as we don't become corrupted ourselves (over bitterness, anger and/or hatred for things done to us) then God will indeed 'avenge' us when the time is right. But, because God made David the king of Israel, He indeed avenged David's enemies and subdued many people under Him physically, because *God was using David to lead Israel into obeying His righteous laws*. But today we find ourselves being led by very corrupt people who don't care about anyone else, not even God Almighty. Therefore, we might have to wait to see justice done. But that's ok. As Zech 2:8 tells us, those who persecute the Body of Christ (Jesus' servants) are poking God in the pupil (apple) of His eye and He doesn't tolerate that. Therefore, He will 'get back' at them *but* it will be at the time (and in the way) He chooses to do so. If we trust and love Him, we'll be ok with this because we know His ways are far above ours (Isa 55:8-9). And let's not forget the 'theme' that these Psalms have taught us: **the wicked will indeed be 'taken' (judged) by their own wicked words and by their own wicked devices they have planned (imagined) against the righteous (those that love and serve God) ...**

15 The heathen are sunk down in the pit that they made: in the net which they hid is their own foot taken.

*16 The LORD is known by the judgment which he executeth: **the wicked is snared in the work of his own hands.** Higgaion. Selah.*

17 The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God.

18 For the needy shall not alway be forgotten: the expectation of the poor shall not perish for ever.

Ps 9:15-18

*The wicked in his pride doth persecute the poor: **let them be taken in the devices that they have imagined.** [And they will!]*

Ps 10:2

And, later on in the Psalms, we'll learn...

Let their table become a snare before them: and that which should have been for their welfare, let it become a trap.

Ps 69:22

The LORD bringeth the counsel of the heathen to nought: he maketh the devices of the people of none effect.

Ps 33:10

7 Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for him: fret not thyself because of him who prospereth in his way, because of the man who bringeth wicked devices to pass.

8 Cease from anger, and forsake wrath: fret not thyself in any wise to do evil.

9 For evildoers shall be cut off: but those that wait upon the LORD, they shall inherit the earth.

Ps 37:7-9

We can 'rest' spiritually in the Lord (YHWH) because we should trust in His ability to see all that goes on (Ps 11) and know He won't let evil go on unabated forever. He only allows it (for a little while) to allow His children to be tested; He's searching to see who will remain faithful to Him (even when they are persecuted for doing what's right) verses those who will follow Satan. *This is how God is forming* (through Jesus Christ) *His eternal* (and righteous – uncorruptible) *government* (the Body of Christ) through which He will rule with in the Millennium and even in the eternity. In other words, by allowing the wicked to continue to do wickedly on earth (Paul calls this the 'mystery of iniquity' in 2 Thess 2:7) God is separating the good people (the wheat) from the useless and wicked ones (Mth 13 parable of the tares). So, we shouldn't get fervently emotionally upset at seeing this because, *it's part of God's plan of Salvation*. Now, that doesn't mean we shouldn't 'do something about it' but our efforts should be in conformity to God's Word. He has told us (commissioned us) to take the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the world (Mth 28:18-20) and also to clean (and keep clean) our own heart and mind (Rom 8:13, Col 3:5-10, Rom 6, Eph 4:20-32, 1 Tim 5:22, 2 Pt 3:14, 1 Tim 6:14). So, when we get upset at the evil we see going on, or have problems in our life we don't know how to handle, Paul advises us in Phil 4:6-8 to take these concerns to God in prayer *and trust He will help us*. That's when we'll get the

‘peace that passes all understanding’ from His Holy Spirit (Phil 4:7). And we should also remember to counter all the ‘bad news’ we hear (or see) *by remembering the promises of God* (Phil 4:8). This is important because, when we’re too emotionally upset, we can be easily manipulated into doing something outside of God’s will (i.e. sinning). It is our duty to point sin out to individuals, and nations, as the opportunity arises (Eph 5:15-16, Col 4:5-6, Isa 58:1). But we aren’t supposed to try to overthrow our government or cause troubles in society (Rom 13). **We must let God work His plan of Salvation or else *we’re fighting Him*...** and that’s not a good place to be, for that is when we’ll get chastised ourselves (Heb 12). So, we must remember that God is the one that avenges us (although we do have a right to self-defense) and subdues people under us, as David found out in his life.

Psalm 18

48 He delivereth me from mine enemies: yea, thou liftest me up above those that rise up against me: thou hast delivered me from the violent man.

So many times, God delivered David physically from his enemies and rose him up in victory against those who were literally trying to kill him. Saul, the Philistines, Absalom’s rebellion and more were all times people sought to literally kill David and for no good reason (without a cause, Ps 69:4, 109:3). But David always trusted in God to deliver him from them and our Heavenly Father never let him down. Likewise, He will always protect us too, so long as we remain faithful to Him, like David did. Truly, David (though he was not without fault) is an excellent example for us (1 Cor 10:11). Hebrews 11 tells us of many others who kept their faith in God Almighty (YHWH) strong, despite *fierce* persecutions - and yet, they never obtained the promise of eternal life. So, *we have to develop the skill of having the foresight to remember God’s promises and continue to obey His Word despite things that are happening to us right now.* As the theme of the book of Ecclesiastes tells us [https://t.me/BibleStudyBooks_Ecclesiastes] this flesh life is *very* temporary. It will not last forever. So, what we should keep our heart and mind focused on is what happens to us *after we die*. Only those who believe in, and remain faithful to, the Living God (YHWH) will be allowed into the ‘good side’ of heaven while the others (wicked and rebellious) will be spiritually tormented (with truth) as the parable Jesus gave us in Luke 16 tells us. Further, if we’re still alive when Jesus Christ returns, it is *only* those who *remain* faithful to the true God, and the *true* Jesus Christ, who will be given eternal life and allowed to reign with Jesus Christ. Further to that, after the Millennium, all those who are still rebellious will be spiritually put to death *forever*, ceasing to exist *in any form*. Those who are wise will understand this and keep it in mind despite the things that are happening in the world, or to themselves, during their time in this flesh body. As Solomon pointed out...

13 Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.

14 For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.

Eccl 12:13-14

And Paul also said...

9 Wherefore we labour, that, whether present or absent, we may be accepted of him.

10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.

2 Cor 5:9-10

Keep the truth tightly in your heart and mind each and every day. Don't forget it or cause things that are happening in the world – or to you personally – to distract you from the overall picture of God's plan of Salvation. God *will* 'raise us up' *and* deliver us from the wicked. He does so now spiritually (He matures us spiritually by raising us up to a higher level of thinking and understanding through His Word and Holy Spirit) but will do so physically when the true Jesus Christ returns (Rom 8:11-15). ***We must never forget these precious promises.***

Psalm 18

49 Therefore will I give thanks unto thee, O LORD, among the heathen, and sing praises unto thy name.

After many verses where David explains how, and why, God delivered him (time and time again) from all his enemies, David does not forget to thank our Heavenly Father, nor to worship Him by sinning praise to His Holy name, Yehovah (YHVH). These are forms of *spiritual* 'sacrifices', which is what God really wants from us (Ps 50:7-15, 107:11, 116:17, Jonah 2:9, Amos 4:5, Ps 54:6, Ps 141:2, Jer 17:26, 33:1). As David says in Ps 141:2: *Let **my prayer** be set forth before thee as incense; and the **lifting up of my hands** as the evening sacrifice.* Further, thanking God and singing praise to Him, even 'among the heath', is also a teaching tool, as the Psalms also declares...

1 O sing unto the LORD a new song: sing unto the LORD, all the earth.

2 Sing unto the LORD, bless his name; shew forth his salvation from day to day.

*3 **Declare his glory among the heathen, his wonders among all people.***

4 For the LORD is great, and greatly to be praised: he is to be feared above all gods.

5 For all the gods of the nations are idols: but the LORD made the heavens.

6 Honour and majesty are before him: strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.

7 Give unto the LORD, O ye kindreds of the people, give unto the LORD glory and strength.

8 Give unto the LORD the glory due unto his name: bring an offering, and come into his courts.

*9 **O worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness: fear before him, all the earth.***

*10 **Say among the heathen that the LORD reigneth:** the world also shall be established that it shall not be moved: he shall judge the people righteously.*

11 Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea roar, and the fulness thereof.

12 Let the field be joyful, and all that is therein: then shall all the trees of the wood rejoice

13 Before the LORD: for he cometh, for he cometh to judge the earth: he shall judge the world with righteousness, and the people with his truth.

Ps 96

Now, Paul also quotes this 49th verse of Ps 18 in the 15th chapter of Romans; a chapter where he is admonishing the Body of Christ how to treat each other. And he says...

8 Now I say that **Jesus Christ was a minister of the circumcision for the truth of God, to confirm the promises made unto the fathers:**

9 And **that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy; as it is written, For this cause I will confess to thee among the Gentiles, and sing unto thy name.**

10 And again he saith, Rejoice, ye Gentiles, with his people. [quoted from Deut 32:43]

11 And again, Praise the Lord, all ye Gentiles; and laud him, all ye people. [quoted from Ps 117:1]

12 And again, Esaias saith, There shall be a root of Jesse, and he that shall rise to reign over the Gentiles; in him shall the Gentiles trust. [quoted from Isa 11:10]

13 Now **the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost.**

Rom 15:8-13

First off, notice what Paul says in verse 8. While God gave the ‘covenant of circumcision’ to Abraham (Gen 17) as a rite to be physically kept (until the Messiah came), it is Jesus who is the ‘minister of circumcision’ because **His Holy Spirit is what helps us circumcise our rebellious (hardened) heart** (Deut 10:16, 30:6, Jer 4:4, Col 2:10-12, 1 Cor 7:18-19) by helping us put off our ‘old man’ *which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts* (Eph 2:22), and not serve sin any longer (Rom 6:6) and then *renewing in the spirit of your mind* (Eph 4:23) through God’s Word (Col 3:10) so we can put on the ‘new man’, *which is created in righteousness and true holiness* (Eph 4:24). Paul’s point is that spiritual circumcision is not contained only to the Israelites, as the physical covenant of circumcision had been. It is for **all** people of **any** race and for women as well as men. So, Paul quotes this Ps 18:49 to make the point that the Holy Spirit prophesied that this spiritual circumcision would be available for all people who believed in the Messiah, Jesus Christ and *that’s why David felt compelled to give thanks to and praise YHVH even among the heathen*. In other words, David shared the Gospel of Jesus Christ even to the ‘heathen nations’ through the beautiful Psalms he wrote. After all, even before the days of David the heathen nations (those who were not of Israel) were allowed to come and worship God if they wanted to (and God hoped they would). It was this way from the very first Passover...

And when a stranger shall sojourn with thee, and will [wnted to] keep the passover to the LORD, let all his males be circumcised, and then let him come near and keep it; and he shall be as one that is born in the land: for no uncircumcised person shall eat thereof.

Ex 12:48

The only way a ‘stranger’ (someone not of Israel heritage) could be allowed to partake of the Passover meal was if they were physically circumcised. This looked forward to the spiritual ‘covenant of circumcision’ that happens to a person when they accept Jesus Christ. The only way anyone (of any race or gender) can be a partaker of Jesus Christ (who is our true Passover, as 1

Cor 5:7 declares) is to put off the ‘old man’ (repent and learn God’s Word) and put on the “new man” (who is willingly obedient to God’s Word and Holy Spirit) so that we can ‘*keep the feast* [of Passover], *not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth*’ (1 Cor 5:8). The ‘Jews’ of Paul’s day had a really hard time letting go of the physical circumcision ritual. They clung to it as much as people cling to ‘traditions of man’ today. But, they totally missed the point that the psychical circumcision was teaching us (Gal 3:24-24). As Paul said, *Circumcision is nothing, and uncircumcision is nothing, but the keeping of the commandments of God* (1 Cor 7:18-19). So, we are to be *circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ*: (Col 2:11) because being ‘circumcised’ physically was only a ritual given to Abraham to symbolize what the true circumcision (of the Messiah, Jesus Christ) was to be about. As Moses said in Deut 10:16: *Circumcise therefore the foreskin of your heart, and be no more stiffnecked*. Therefore, those who are considered God’s “holy” people are those who are circumcised *spiritually*, in their heart and mind (Rom 2:29). That’s why, in Phil 3:3 Paul says that *we are the circumcision, which worship God in the spirit, and rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh*. And he continues to explain this in other Scriptures such as Rom 3:30, Gal 5:6, Gal 6:15 and Col 3:11.

So, here in this 49th verse in Psalms 18, the Holy Spirit was using David to prophesy of how the Gospel of Jesus Christ would be taught to the gentile (heathen) nations (races other than Israel) and the beautiful result of it: they too would believe in the Word of God and allow the Holy Spirit to clean their heart and mind (helping them ‘cut off’ their sins in their soul, which is what ‘circumcises’ us spiritually). And *that is truly something to give thanks and praise the Lord (YHVH) for* because it means that all people of any race and gender can be given eternal life when they sincerely believe in Jesus Christ (the Word of God). As 2 Peter 3:9 tells us, *the Lord (YHVH) is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance*.

Psalm 18

50 Great deliverance giveth he to his king; and sheweth mercy to his anointed, to David, and to his seed for evermore.

This verse is twofold. Since David is the one writing the Psalm, he’s speaking first from his own experiences where God has delivered him from all his enemies and showed him mercy because David truly was an anointed king by God himself (1 Sam 16:13). However, this verse also looks forward (beyond David) to David’s descendant, Jesus Christ, who would also be David’s “Lord”. That’s why David adds on ‘*and to his seed for evermore*’. David never forgot God’s promise to him when the prophet Nathan was sent by God to tell David he would not be allowed to make a ‘house’ (Temple) for God. This is what the Lord (YHVH) told Nathan to say to David (which he faithfully did) ...

4 And it came to pass that night, that the word of the LORD came unto Nathan, saying,

5 Go and tell my servant David, Thus saith the LORD, Shalt thou build me an house for me to dwell in?

6 Whereas I have not dwelt in any house since the time that I brought up the children of Israel out of Egypt, even to this day, but have walked in a tent and in a tabernacle.

7 In all the places wherein I have walked with all the children of Israel spake I a word with any of the tribes of Israel, whom I commanded to feed my people Israel, saying, Why build ye not me an house of cedar?

8 Now therefore so shalt thou say unto my servant David, Thus saith the LORD of hosts, I took thee from the sheepcote, from following the sheep, to be ruler over my people, over Israel:

9 And I was with thee whithersoever thou wentest, and have cut off all thine enemies out of thy sight, and have made thee a great name, like unto the name of the great men that are in the earth.

10 Moreover I will appoint a place for my people Israel, and will plant them, that they may dwell in a place of their own, and move no more; neither shall the children of wickedness afflict them any more, as beforetime,

11 And as since the time that I commanded judges to be over my people Israel, and have caused thee to rest from all thine enemies. Also the LORD telleth thee that he will make thee an house.

12 And when thy days be fulfilled, and thou shalt sleep with thy fathers, I will set up thy seed after thee, which shall proceed out of thy bowels, and I will establish his kingdom.

13 He shall build an house for my name, and I will stablish the throne of his kingdom for ever.

14 I will be his father, and he shall be my son. If he commit iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men, and with the stripes of the children of men:

15 But my mercy shall not depart away from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away before thee.

16 And thine house and thy kingdom shall be established for ever before thee: thy throne shall be established for ever.

17 According to all these words, and according to all this vision, so did Nathan speak unto David.

2 Sam 7:4-17

So, David was not allowed to build a physical ‘house’ (Temple) for God; it was David’s son, Solomon who did. And God did indeed establish his throne and he became famous for the wisdom and wealth God gave him. However, it was not only Solomon’s throne God was speaking of here. *God was also* (perhaps even moreso) *prophesying of the promised Messiah.* And He gave David one of the most honorable promises anyone could have: the Messiah (Jesus Christ) would come through the loins of David. In other words, Jesus Christ was a direct descendant of David. And this was true not only of Jesus’ mother (through her father, as Luke 3:31 tells us) but also of Jesus’ adopted father, Joseph (as Mth 1:1, 6, 20 tells us). While Joseph was not Jesus’ real Father, of course (He was begotten of the Holy Spirit, as Mth 1:20 and Lk 1:35 tells us), he was thought to be by all those that knew the family (Lk 3:23). So, when Jesus spoke of His Father (who was God Himself) it really confused the religious folks a lot because they thought Joseph was Jesus’ father, as the account in John 8 shows (vs 8-19, 25, 27, etc). And this was a stumbling block to them; the hard hearted ‘religious leaders’ could not believe that Jesus Christ was truly the Messiah because they thought He was ‘just a man’ begotten by a flesh

man... but He was not! He was in a flesh body but Jesus was not ‘begotten’ by any flesh man; He was begotten by the Holy Spirit through a holy miracle (Lk 1:35). So, **this verse also looks forward to the ‘great deliverance’ God will give His people through His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ.** For, indeed He has shown mercy to His people by giving us Jesus Christ who so willingly shed His sinless blood for our sins, giving us the power (through the Holy Spirit) to overcome our sins and be forgiven them as well. Therefore, all those who are the ‘seed’ of Jesus Christ indeed obtain mercy and deliverance from our enemies (Satan and all other wicked people). And remember, those who are Jesus’ ‘seed’ are those who the Holy Spirit ‘begats’ spiritually when we accept the truth, as it is written...

12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:

13 Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.
John 1:12-13

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

4 To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you,

5 Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

1 Peter 1:3-5

18 We know that whosoever is born of God sinneth not; but he that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not.

19 And we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness.

20 And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true [John 17:3], and we are in him that is true [John 15:4-7], even in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life. [again, John 17:3]

1 John 5:18-20

Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

James 1:18

5 And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood,

6 And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

Rev 1:5-6

8 So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.

9 But **ye are** not in the flesh, but **in the Spirit**, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.

10 And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

11 But **if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you**, he that raised up Christ from the dead **shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.**

12 Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh.

13 For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: **but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.**

14 **For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.**

15 For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.

16 The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:

17 And **if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ**; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.

Rom 8:8-17

24 For we are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for?

25 **But if we hope for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it.**

26 **Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities:** for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

27 And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, **that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.**

Rom 8:24-29

So, the power of the Holy Spirit that raised Jesus Christ from the dead also raises our soul from death (lies and deception and sin) to everlasting life (understanding and doing truth, helping us to become righteous) and that is how the Holy Spirit (given to us by the blood of Jesus Christ, Acts 2:33) ‘begats’ us *spiritually* into a ‘new man’, which after God *is created in righteousness and true holiness* (Eph 4:24) because we’re renewed *in knowledge after the image of him* [Jesus Christ] *that created him* (Col 3:10). And this is how we too can (and are) delivered from all our enemies and given mercy *forevermore*.

Now, this chapter ends with the ‘subtitle’ of: “*To the chief Musician*” which we have already learned means: ‘to He that has the victory’ or ‘to He that gives the victory’ – which, of course, is Jesus Christ. So, David (yet again) commits this song to the true ‘chief musician’ Jesus Christ, who would come from his loins yet would be his “Lord”, just as He is ours. And it’s befitting for

David to again end this great chapter with this ‘subtitle’ because it’s only through Jesus Christ that we can (like David) have the victory over *all* our enemies...

1 Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God: and every one that loveth him that begat loveth him also that is begotten of him.

2 By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments.

3 For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.

4 For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.

5 Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?

1 John 5:1-5

May God in all things be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever (1 Peter 4:11).

Amen!