

"THE LORD IS OUR STRENGTH, OUR SONG, AND OUR SALVATION"

SCRIPTURE: PSALM 118:1-29

TEXT: PSALM 118:14

INTRO: Psalm 103:2 says: **"BLESS THE LORD, O MY SOUL, AND FORGET NOT ALL HIS BENEFITS."** In reality, that is a CLEAR COMMAND OF SCRIPTURE, but nevertheless, many of us who know the Lord **SO OFTEN FAIL TO FOCUS ON HIS BENEFITS. WOULD YOU AGREE?** When we focus on **THE LORD'S BENEFITS, WE WILL BE GREATLY ENCOURAGED.** But when we do not focus on **THE LORD'S BENEFITS, WE WILL TEND TO BE DISCOURAGED.** Satan loves that, by the way! So, to focus on the LORD'S BENEFITS TO US is a GREAT SPIRITUAL CONCEPT TO APPLY TO OUR LIVES. In Psalm 118 we have MANY of the BENEFITS OF THE LORD LISTED. Verse 14 gives us **three of them that we will focus on this morning. As we do, let's give God the THANKS AND PRAISE HE DESERVES for these great benefits He pours out upon us each day that we might be enabled to serve and enjoy him more and more.**

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NOTE: "LORD" in our verse is "JEHOVAH" which is the **ALL SUFFICIENT REDEMPTIVE NAME OF GOD WHO DESIRES TO MEET OUR NEEDS FOR HIS GLORY.**

I. THE LORD IS OUR STRENGTH

- Emphasized OFTEN in scripture = Psalm 46:1 and 73:26.
- The LORD HIMSELF is the SOURCE OF OUR STRENGTH.

QUESTION: HOW CAN WE RECEIVE THE LORD'S STRENGTH?

- Remember to Trust Christ as Personal Savior
- Remember YOUR Inadequacy
- Remember God's Desire to Provide Strength
- Remember to Ask God for Strength Early On
- Remember to Seek God's Strength in Every Situation
- Remember to Trust God Totally for His Strength
- Remember to Refuse to Depend upon Yourself At ALL
- Remember to THANK God for the Strength He Provides.

ILLUSTRATION:

II. THE LORD IS OUR SONG

- What is a Song?
 - Generally Speaking
 - A MUSICAL EXPRESSION OF A PARTICULAR EMOTION**
 - Biblically Speaking
 - As seen in the New Testament
 - It is the Greek Word "ODA" which is always used to speak of **PRAISING GOD THE FATHER OR GOD THE SON.**
 - As seen in the Old Testament
 - It is the Hebrew Word "ZIM-RAWTH" which means **PRAISE SONG.**

THE POINT: GOD IS TO BE EXALTED WITH OUR PRAISE SONGS.

ILLUSTRATION:

- What is the Source of our Song (Spiritually Speaking)
GOD! GOD! GOD!
- How Does a Song Exalt God?
 - A True Song is an EXPRESSION of our Heart to God.
 - A True Song DRAWS ATTENTION to Him for WHO HE IS.
 - A True Song is a BIBLICAL CONCEPT of Worship
- Do You Sing?
-WE ALL SHOULD! Psalm 9:11; 27:6; 30:4; 57:7; 68:4; 135:1
- What About the Song You Sing?
 - How Does it Define You?
 - How Does it Inspire Others?
 - How Does it Exalt God?

ILLUSTRATION:

III. THE LORD IS OUR SALVATION

NOTE: The text says, "**THE LORD IS 'BECOME' MY SALVATION.**" This expression is tied into the fact that THE LORD is our STRENGTH.

- *When we **DEPEND** upon the LORD for our **STRENGTH** He **DELIVERS** us from or through all matters.* Job 5:19; Psalm 33:19; 50:15
- "SALVATION" is the Hebrew word "YESH-OO-AW" which means "**DELIVERANCE THAT BRINGS VICTORY, HELP, WELFARE AND SAVING.**"

A. The Types of Deliverance the Lord Provides

1. Unknown
2. Known

B. The Terms of Deliverance for the Lord to Provide

1. To Go to the Lord Immediately upon the need.
2. To Trust the Lord Totally in the need.

ILLUSTRATION:

APPLICATION/LESSON:

GOD REALLY IS THERE FOR US AT ALL TIMES FOR ALL THINGS ONCE WE KNOW HIM THROUGH FAITH IN CHRIST ALONE! HE BENEFITS US THROUGH PROVIDING OUR STRENGTH AND SALVATION AND THUS, HE IS THE ONE WE ARE TO SING ABOUT.

LET'S GIVE GOD THE PRAISE, HONOR AND GLORY DUE HIS NAME!