

## 2 Samuel Chapter 22 Commentary

**2Sa 22:1 ¶ "And David spake unto the LORD the words of this song in the day that the LORD had delivered him out of the hand of all his enemies, and out of the hand of Saul:"**

We see here that David spake the words of this song to God, when God had finally delivered him from all his enemies, and there was peace in Israel. This had happened some time ago, seen in: **2Sa 7:1 ¶ "And it came to pass, when the king sat in his house, and the LORD had given him rest round about from all his enemies;"** The fact that David spake these words to God: indicates this was a private prayer, song, of thanksgiving to God, for the multitude of mercies that David has been the recipient of in his life. Although David may have spoken these words publicly, when he first spoke them, they did not become a public song until we find them again, with some variations, in Psalms 18. Certainly, we all have heard public prayers, and songs, which moved us to remembrance of the greatness of our God and Saviour.

We notice that David separated Saul from being his enemy, because he named him separately from all his enemies. Though Saul acted the part of an enemy, David had a love for Saul, and a respect for Saul because God anointed him to be king over Israel, and he was David's king. David manifested this love by never going to battle against Saul, although he did spend a lot of time running and hiding from Saul. Even when God placed King Saul into his hands, and he could have easily killed him; David would not lift his hand to kill one who was anointed by God. In this he manifested that he truly did have a love for Saul. Do you understand that every child of God, who is given the new birth, is anointed by God? This is why we are to love one another, and why Jesus told us in: **Mt 22:39 "And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself."**

We shall see many prophetic pictures pertaining to Christ Jesus in this chapter. How can we be sure there is a prophesy of Jesus in this chapter. Jesus tells us in: **Lu 24:44 "And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me."** Since this chapter is repeated in Psalms it is just as much a prophesy of Jesus here as in Psalms. Actually, all the Old Testament is a prophesy and testimony of Jesus, as seen in: **Joh 5:39 "Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me."**

**2 ¶ And he said, The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; 3 The God of my rock; in him will I trust: he is my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my high tower, and my refuge, my saviour; thou savest me from violence. 4 I will call on the LORD, who is worthy to be praised: so shall I be saved from mine enemies."**

As David looks back over his life and remembers all the deliverances of God: consider all the names he uses for God, and the descriptions of God's strength and power. Compare David's descriptions, of God in his life, to our lives in Christ.

- **"The LORD is my rock,"** We are told that Christ Jesus is the rock in: **1Co 10:4 "And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ."** Just as the eternal LORD was David's rock, fortress, and deliverer: so, Jesus Christ is our rock, fortress, and deliverer.
- **"The God of my rock;"** The LORD, all capital letters, is speaking of God the Father. The God of my rock is a portrait of Jesus Christ. Though Christ has not yet appeared on earth in his prepared body, David recognizes that God is his deliverer. David realizes that he can trust fully in God, because God has been faithful to David all his life. Look at all the descriptions he gives of the one who is his saviour: **"he is my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my high tower, and my refuge, my saviour;"** All of these descriptions are easily applied by us to Christ Jesus, in our life experiences as a Child of God.
- **"thou savest me from violence."** David recognizes that God has spared him from violence. Here the word **"violence"** has the definition of **wrong, unjust gain, cruelty, damage, false, injustice, a violent oppressor, unrighteous, violent dealing.** David recognizes that God has delivered him out of all situations in life that are described in these definitions. Remember; David named Saul separately when he was naming his

enemies? Now we see why. Saul would have slain David in violence, wrongly and unjustly, for David was not guilty of any of the charges brought by his accusers to Saul.

Thus, David says: based on my life experience in my relationship with God, I will trust fully in the LORD, and when confronted with any bad circumstance, I will call upon his name for deliverance, and I shall be delivered by the power of God. My enemies will not overcome me.

We can say sing the same song, in our lives as children of God, because of Christ Jesus, our Saviour. Why? Because in the new birth we were given Christ in us, and none can overcome him. Hallelujah! Praise ye the Lord!

**5 "When the waves of death compassed me, the floods of ungodly men made me afraid; 6 The sorrows of hell compassed me about; the snares of death prevented me; 7 In my distress I called upon the LORD, and cried to my God: and he did hear my voice out of his temple, and my cry did enter into his ears."**

The previous chapter is one occasion when David was looking death in the eye, when the giant son of the giant Goliath was near to taking his life, because David had grown weak and faint. Surely, David prayed to God for deliverance and was saved. And there were many other occasions in his life when David called upon God for deliverance.

Notice, David recognizes that God communicated to him out of his temple. What a prophetic picture that David understood his body was the temple of God, of which we are told in: **1Co 6:19 "What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?"** Wherefore, David says: my cry entered God's ears, and he heard me. Therefore, by God's great power was I delivered. The same is true for us. How do we know? Consider the scripture in: **Ro 8:26 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."** This is true spiritual prayer that God does hear.

David shall use very descriptive language, in the following verses, to describe the power of God in delivering himself and Israel. Surely, God's chosen people can say the same things today.

**8 Then the earth shook and trembled; the foundations of heaven moved and shook, because he was wroth. 9 There went up a smoke out of his nostrils, and fire out of his mouth devoured: coals were kindled by it. 10 He bowed the heavens also, and came down; and darkness was under his feet. 11 And he rode upon a cherub, and did fly: and he was seen upon the wings of the wind. 12 And he made darkness pavilions round about him, dark waters, and thick clouds of the skies. 13 Through the brightness before him were coals of fire kindled. 14 The LORD thundered from heaven, and the most High uttered his voice. 15 And he sent out arrows, and scattered them; lightning, and discomfited them. 16 And the channels of the sea appeared, the foundations of the world were discovered, at the rebuking of the LORD, at the blast of the breath of his nostrils. 17 He sent from above, he took me; he drew me out of many waters; 18 He delivered me from my strong enemy, and from them that hated me: for they were too strong for me. 19 They prevented me in the day of my calamity: but the LORD was my stay."**

David would have known of these descriptive images from the history of Israel. He would have known how God parted the sea, for the salvation of Israel, and the destruction of Pharoah and his armies by that same sea. He would have known how God came down on Mt Sinai. He would have known how God had delivered Joshua from the five kings of the Amorites, seen in: **Jos 10:11 "And it came to pass, as they fled from before Israel, and were in the going down to Bethhoron, that the LORD cast down great stones from heaven upon them unto Azekah, and they died: they were more which died with hailstones than they whom the children of Israel slew with the sword."** He would have known how God had delivered Sisera into the hand of Deborah seen in her song of deliverance in: **Jg 5:5 "The mountains melted from before the LORD, even that Sinai from before the LORD God of Israel."** He would have known how God had delivered Israel from the rule of the Philistines under reign of and through Samuel, seen in: **1Sa 7:10 "And as Samuel was offering up the burnt offering, the Philistines drew near to battle against Israel: but the LORD thundered with a great thunder on that day upon the Philistines, and discomfited them; and they were smitten before Israel."** And from many other occasions of God's deliverance of Israel.

We believe David is speaking of the cataclysmic events that took place during the flood in **16 "And the channels of the sea appeared, the foundations of the world were discovered, at the rebuking of the LORD, at the blast of the breath of his nostrils."** These events are seen in **Ge 7:11-12; 11 ¶ "In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, the seventeenth day of the month, the same day were all the fountains of the great deep broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened. 12 And the rain was upon the earth forty days and forty nights."**

All these historic events were available to David that he might give these descriptions of the great delivering power of God, even if they did not happen directly in his own life. They did happen to his ancestors, and without ancestors David would not exist.

I believe that David is making the point that God rules in the heavens and upon the earth, seen in: **1Ch 29:11 "Thine, O LORD, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for all that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine; thine is the kingdom, O LORD, and thou art exalted as head above all."** Also seen in: **Ps 115:3 "But our God is in the heavens: he hath done whatsoever he hath pleased."**

David is telling us: just as God did miraculously deliver Israel, his chosen people, God has just as miraculously delivered me, a man after God's own heart, all the days of my life. David is saying to us: you can have this same confidence in your lives as Children of God. David is telling us: do not doubt the eternal security, of our eternal life in Christ.

There is the prophetic picture of the events to take place at the cross of Christ, seen in: **Mt 27:45-54; 45 "Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land unto the ninth hour. 46 And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani? that is to say, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? 47 Some of them that stood there, when they heard that, said, This man calleth for Elias. 48 And straightway one of them ran, and took a sponge, and filled it with vinegar, and put it on a reed, and gave him to drink. 49 The rest said, Let be, let us see whether Elias will come to save him. 50 ¶ Jesus, when he had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost. 51 And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent; 52 And the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints which slept arose, 53 And came out of the graves after his resurrection, and went into the holy city, and appeared unto many. 54 Now when the centurion, and they that were with him, watching Jesus, saw the earthquake, and those things that were done, they feared greatly, saying, Truly this was the Son of God."** In the death, burial, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus Christ, God is revealed in his utmost strength. His power is displayed as Jesus has conquered death, hell, and the grave, which is why we believe, that we too shall be victorious, in the resurrection of the dead in Christ.

**20 "He brought me forth also into a large place: he delivered me, because he delighted in me. 21 The LORD rewarded me according to my righteousness: according to the cleanness of my hands hath he recompensed me. 22 For I have kept the ways of the LORD, and have not wickedly departed from my God. 23 For all his judgments were before me: and as for his statutes, I did not depart from them. 24 I was also upright before him, and have kept myself from mine iniquity. 25 Therefore the LORD hath recompensed me according to my righteousness; according to my cleanness in his eyesight."**

Here we have a prophesy of Jesus, as well as the declaration of David. But some will claim that David was not without sin as Christ was. That is true, however, God forgave David of his sin, and therefore he could claim that though I sinned God forgave me, and it is as if I never did those sins, and I did not do them again. Remember that when Samuel anointed David to be king according to God's commandment? What took place? **1Sa 16:13 "Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the midst of his brethren: and the Spirit of the LORD came upon David from that day forward."** The Spirit of the Lord upon David is a picture of salvation by grace in David's life, and a prophetic picture of those whom Jesus would save at his coming to earth.

Well, how do we see Jesus in these verses? God did raise Jesus from the dead and gave him deliverance and victory over death, hell, and the grave. Jesus was indeed sinless, and God resurrected him to prove that Jesus was sinless in his sight. God will resurrect us to eternal life with King Jesus, because through the finished work of Jesus, we are sinless in the sight of God.

**"He brought me forth also into a large place: he delivered me, because he delighted in me. 21 The LORD rewarded me according to my righteousness: according to the cleanness of my hands hath he recompensed me."** God resurrected Jesus to a large place, which is the eternal heaven. The eternal heaven is large enough to hold every child of God, which is a multitude that no man can number. Why did God do this? Because Jesus lived mortally a sinless life, and God delighted in the finished work of Jesus Christ, seen in verse **25 "Therefore the LORD hath recompensed me according to my righteousness; according to my cleanness in his eyesight."** God delighted in David and God delights in his chosen people that are saved by his grace today. They are all clean in God's sight because of the finished work of Jesus Christ.

David is a prophetic picture of Jesus because he was a man after God's own heart. However, David was, as we are, born of sinful flesh. Jesus, however, was the only sinless human body that could pay the sacrificial debt of the shedding of blood for the eternal remission of sins. As David was a sinner and could claim the salvation of God in its sinless perfection, so we today can claim the salvation of God in its sinless perfection. Hallelujah! Thank you, King Jesus. Amen!

**26 "With the merciful thou wilt shew thyself merciful, and with the upright man thou wilt shew thyself upright. 27 With the pure thou wilt shew thyself pure; and with the froward thou wilt shew thyself unsavoury. 28 And the afflicted people thou wilt save: but thine eyes are upon the haughty, that thou mayest bring them down."**

David declares the righteousness of God in all that he does. David tells us that God deals with mankind in accordance with the manifested actions of mankind toward God. Surely, you understand that people who are merciful, upright, and pure, are those whom Jesus has redeemed and manifested himself to them in the new birth. We sing a song in the Lloyd Hymnal:

**"And the afflicted people thou wilt save:"**

**425 L. M.**

*Trusting in the Lord.*

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| <p>1 POOR and afflicted, Lord, are thine,<br/>Among the great unfit to shine;<br/>But though the world may think it strange,<br/>They would not with the world exchange.</p> | <p>4 Poor and afflicted—yet they sing,<br/>For Christ, their glorious, conquering King,<br/>Through sufferings perfect, reigns on high,<br/>And does their every need supply.</p> |
| <p>2 Poor and afflicted, yet they trust<br/>In God, the gracious, wise and just;<br/>For them he deigns this lot to choose,<br/>Nor would they dare his will refuse.</p>     | <p>5 Poor and afflicted—yet ere long,<br/>They'll join the bright celestial throng,<br/>And all their sufferings then shall close,<br/>And heaven afford them sweet repose.</p>   |
| <p>3 Poor and afflicted oft they are,<br/>Sorely oppressed with want and care,<br/>Yet he who saves them by his blood<br/>Makes every sorrow yield them good.</p>            | <p>6 Poor and afflicted, filled with grief: —<br/>O Lord, afford us kind relief,<br/>To cheer the heart that heaves a sigh,<br/>And wipe the tears from every eye.</p>            |

God tells us in: **Zep 3:12 "I will also leave in the midst of thee an afflicted and poor people, and they shall trust in the name of the LORD."** These are saved souls who are trusting in the salvation of the LORD; just as King David is trusting in the salvation of the Lord.

David also reminds us that God has a portion for the haughty, seen in: **Pr 16:18 ¶ "Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall."** This is a reminder to us that there is no one, nor anything, that can rise in defiance to make themselves greater than God, but what God can humble their hearts before him. Remember, God is the creator of all things, and nothing is superior to his power. After all: God tells us in: **Php 2:10-11; 10 "That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; 11 And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."** This includes the lost and the saved. All created things shall acknowledge that Jesus is indeed Lord.

29 "For thou art my lamp, O LORD: and the LORD will lighten my darkness. 30 For by thee I have run through a troop: by my God have I leaped over a wall. 31 As for God, his way is perfect; the word of the LORD is tried: he is a buckler to all them that trust in him. 32 For who is God, save the LORD? and who is a rock, save our God? 33 God is my strength and power: and he maketh my way perfect. 34 He maketh my feet like hinds' feet: and setteth me upon my high places. 35 He teacheth my hands to war; so that a bow of steel is broken by mine arms."

Jesus tells us in: *Joh 8:12 "Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life."* As God is guiding the life of David through the light of God in him, so we too are guided by the light of Christ in us.

David says, by the power of God, I have ran through the troops of my enemies. God, in his strength, has given me walled cities, which men declared could not be taken, as seen in: *2Sa 5:6-7; 6 ¶ "And the king and his men went to Jerusalem unto the Jebusites, the inhabitants of the land: which spake unto David, saying, Except thou take away the blind and the lame, thou shalt not come in hither: thinking, David cannot come in hither. 7 Nevertheless David took the strong hold of Zion: the same is the city of David."*

Just as David declares that God is my saviour; we, who have been saved by God's marvelous grace, can say the Jesus Christ is my Saviour. Just as David declares that God is the rock on which he stands; we can declare; Jesus has taken us up out of the miry pit and set our feet upon the solid rock, which is Christ himself. Just as David declares that God is his strength, and power, and has made his ways perfect; we can say that Jesus, Christ in us, is our strength, and power, and he has made us perfect in the sight of God through his finished work of redemption.

Just as David declares that God has made his feet swift and sure as those of the hind; we can declare that Jesus Christ is our ready sword of defense. As David declares that God has set him in high places; we can say that Jesus, through the new birth, has lifted us above the world of sin in which we live, and set our sight upon the goal of the eternal city, of which there is no higher place.

David says that God has taught me to war, so that my strength in him is strong enough to break the bows of steel held by my enemies; we can say; Jesus has already fought the war for us and has won our eternal deliverance from the power of sin and Satan. Wherefore, we can say; through the power of Christ in us, and being robed in the whole armor of God, we can break the steel bows of our enemies and deflect the fiery darts of Satan.

36 "Thou hast also given me the shield of thy salvation: and thy gentleness hath made me great. 37 Thou hast enlarged my steps under me; so that my feet did not slip. 38 I have pursued mine enemies, and destroyed them; and turned not again until I had consumed them. 39 And I have consumed them, and wounded them, that they could not arise: yea, they are fallen under my feet. 40 For thou hast girded me with strength to battle: them that rose up against me hast thou subdued under me. 41 Thou hast also given me the necks of mine enemies, that I might destroy them that hate me. 42 They looked, but there was none to save; even unto the LORD, but he answered them not. 43 Then did I beat them as small as the dust of the earth, I did stamp them as the mire of the street, and did spread them abroad."

King David declares that God has given him the shield of God's salvation; we can claim the same from Jesus Christ to us. David declares that thy gentleness has made me great; likewise, we can declare that the lovingkindness of Jesus has made us great.

David tells us that God has delivered his enemies into his hand so that none could rise up and destroy him. As Children of God, we can say the same thing. Why? Because we are possessed by the Holy Spirit, and our inherited sin nature cannot overcome the Christ in us. We need only to do as Jesus did when temptations arise in our lives. As Jesus gave Satan the word of God when Satan tempted him, which put Satan to flight: so, we need only give each temptation the word of God, and the power of the Holy Spirit will make that word effectual and put each temptation to flight, or else the Holy Spirit will strike that temptation dead.

For further insight on verses 35-43 please visit my website and the exposition on "The Sword And The Word Ephesians 6 Verses 10-20" found at <https://elderclarklee.com/written-messages>.

**44 "Thou also hast delivered me from the strivings of my people, thou hast kept me to be head of the heathen: a people which I knew not shall serve me. 45 Strangers shall submit themselves unto me: as soon as they hear, they shall be obedient unto me. 46 Strangers shall fade away, and they shall be afraid out of their close places."**

King David declares: God has also delivered me from those, of mine own people, who would rise in insurrection and attempt to destroy me. Those, of mine own people, who seek to usurp my God given position as king over Isreal, has God put down.

David declares; not only has God given me kingship over Israel, but also the neighboring nations, who have tried to overcome me, God has made strangers subject to me. David declares: God has so magnified his name upon me that when they hear the name of the God of King David, God immediately puts the fear of himself in them, and they are subject to me. David declares even those who are afar off, who would dare to seek to destroy me and the kingdom of Israel, God has put the fear of his might in them, so that they quickly abandon all such thoughts.

The lesson for us is that we have just such a King in Jesus Christ, that God has put all people, and things, under fear of the power and might of Jesus Christ. How do we know this is true? Look at the word of God in: **Jas 2:19 "Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble."** If you are saved, you fear and tremble in awe of the greatness of the power of Christ to deliver us in times of trouble. The scripture says that even the devils believe and tremble before Jesus our Saviour, because they know that all Jesus must do is speak the word and they must obey. This is what overcomes our inherited sin nature in our lives as God's chosen people, Christ in us is more powerful than our inherited sin nature.

We also see the prophetic picture of Christ's first coming. How? Was not Jesus fought against by his own people? Yet, God delivered him from them through the resurrection from the dead. Has not God made strangers to recognize Jesus and be obedient to him? Surely, he has; in that the Gentiles were grafted into the church of salvation by grace.

**47 "The LORD liveth; and blessed be my rock; and exalted be the God of the rock of my salvation. 48 It is God that avengeth me, and that bringeth down the people under me, 49 And that bringeth me forth from mine enemies: thou also hast lifted me up on high above them that rose up against me: thou hast delivered me from the violent man. 50 Therefore I will give thanks unto thee, O LORD, among the heathen, and I will sing praises unto thy name. 51 He is the tower of salvation for his king: and sheweth mercy to his anointed, unto David, and to his seed for evermore."**

In verse **49 "And that bringeth me forth from mine enemies: thou also hast lifted me up on high above them that rose up against me: thou hast delivered me from the violent man."** We find the prophetic picture of the eternal resurrection of the dead and the final judgment of God, seen in: **Mt 25:31-46; 31 ¶ "When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: 32 And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: 33 And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. 34 Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: 35 For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: 36 Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me. 37 Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink? 38 When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee? 39 Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? 40 And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me. 41 Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels: 42 For I**

***was an hungred, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink: 43 I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not. 44 Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee? 45 Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me. 46 And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal."***

Wherefore, we can sing with King David, the LORD liveth: blessed is my rock, King Jesus: exalted is the rock of my salvation, who has avenged me, and removed my sins eternally out of God's sight. Blessed is our King Jesus, who has set us apart from the unsaved, and lifted me up above the world of lust and sin. King Jesus has delivered us eternally from the violent man, Satan. Because King Jesus has done all these things for us; we can give thanks and praise to our King Jesus. We can also declare his name among the heathen, who know him not as a personal Saviour. We sing praises to the name of our King Jesus, among the heathen of the world, because King Jesus had given us the promise of eternal life in Christ, manifested now in time and looked forward to in eternity. Hallelujah! Praise ye the LORD. Amen!