

Psalm 18, part 2 - How Can We Stand?

- Vs. 20-24 – I'm rewarded according to my righteousness
 - Whoa! I'm already out!
 - Here's the thing: none of us measure up... but think of Job – he was spiritually where he should be, he had an ongoing relationship with the Lord, and he was, for all intents and purposes, "perfect." Yet, he still grew through his ordeal.
 - David could claim innocence of whatever he was being accused of – we'll always find something to regret or have remorse about. But the forgiveness that God gives cleanses us – He washes our hands.
 - **Romans 4:5-8; 2 Corinthians 5:21**
- Vs. 25 – Your view of God says more about you than it does about Him
 - Matthew 7:1-2 – see how God views our responses – he's not saying to never judge, but to be aware of how we are judging.
 - James 2:13
 - With the merciful, He's seen as merciful; with the upright, upright; with pure, pure; with froward, froward.
 - If you come arrogantly, you'll find your way barred. You come humbly, he'll condescend
 - Admit you're in darkness and He'll light a candle.
 - **Matthew 5:7, Matthew 7:1-2, James 2:13**
- What are some characteristics we can trust in?
 - **v. 30a:** His way is **perfect** (flawless, blameless).
 - **v. 30b:** His word is **tested** / proven (refined like pure gold).
 - **v. 30c:** He is a **shield** / protection for those who take refuge in Him.
 - **v. 31:** The **only God** worth worshiping—no rival compares.
 - **v. 31b:** A **rock** we can build on (stable foundation).
 - **v. 32a:** **Giver of strength.**
 - **v. 32b:** He **makes our way perfect** / secure.
 - **v. 33:** Gives stability (feet like a deer's—sure-footed in high places).
 - **v. 34:** Trains hands for battle / helps with the possible **and impossible.**
 - **v. 35:** Salvation as shield, right hand upholds, gentleness makes us great.
 - **v. 36:** Makes our path **wide** so feet don't slip (room to stand firm).
- Vs. 37-45 – God gives me total victory
 - "Faithful is he who called you, who also will do it." 1 Thessalonians 5:24
 - **Romans 8:37** – "we are super-conquerors through Him."
- Vs. 46 – Remember to give God glory when the deliverance comes
- Vs. 47-50 – God is a great provider and deliverer – give glory to the Lord for the great things He has done!