

Daily Devotional, September 9, 2021 Finding Solace in God's Word

I love you, Lord, my strength. The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold. I called to the Lord, who is worthy of praise, and I have been saved from my enemies. Psalms 18:1-3 (NIV)

In the first 3 verses of Psalm 18, David praises God for His powerful deliverance from all of his enemies. David penned these verses after God had given him absolute victory, and his enemies lay defeated at his feet. Therefore, David expresses his gratitude to God for His glorious provision. You see, David had been running away and hiding from Saul and was in constant danger of death, but God delivered David from all of his enemies. As a result, David lifts up his voice in praise to God who has given him total victory over all of his enemies.

Some people read both the Book of Psalms and the Book of Proverbs as daily devotionals. The book of Psalms, for example, provides prayers that touch every human emotion, from calmness to our greatest angst, fear and anxieties. The 31 chapters of Proverbs allow for the reading of a chapter each day. The great evangelist, Billy Graham, was a great example of one who practiced this devotional routine. He explained, "I used to read five psalms every day - that teaches me how to get along with God, then I read a chapter of Proverbs every day and that teaches me how to get along with my fellow man." I, personally, find comfort in reading verses from Psalms as daily devotionals because they provide the words needed to express myself in prayerful praise and thanksgiving, allowing me to pour out my heart to God, by resonating the feelings of David and the other psalmists. Even when I am in the midst of a loss, a trial, or a heartache, reading several verses from Psalms brings reassurance. Whether reading verses from Proverbs or Psalms, it is important that daily devotionals are truly devoted to God and that they occur daily.

The different stressors of our daily lives have produced various issues in our daily living. Some people are yearning for normality; other people are longing for a tender touch of a loved one; yet, others are experiencing emotional anxiety. If you are experiencing any of these and more, turn to Psalms because it provides a wealth of prayers that take a wide variety of forms - from praise, to rejoicing, to crying out to God for help, to exalting God for all His blessings. Just like David, when we look back at this season of life, we will recognize that God was at work around us, and God was at work in us. We will see God who is our strength, our rock, our fortress, our deliverer, and our stronghold providing and protecting us. For when we call on God, who is worthy of our praise, we are delivered and restored. I pray that reading the Books of Psalms and Proverbs on a daily basis will bring you great peace and comfort.

Lord, You are my Comforter and Protector, my cherished Redeemer. There is no other God like You, entirely full of goodness, grace, and mercy. You heal us when we are brokenhearted and bandage our wounds. You build us up when we are weak in our souls. Thank you for giving us the courage to go forward, and these comforting words to console us. In Christ's redeeming name. Amen