

A TRANSFORMATION FROM DESPAIR TO DELIVERANCE**PSALM 13:1-6****INTRODUCTION**

MY BROTHERS AND SISTERS, THE BOOK OF PSALMS IS BASICALLY A COLLECTION OF “SACRED SONGS.”

THEY ARE COMMONLY REFERRED TO AS “SONGS OF PRAISE,” BECAUSE, THE HEBREW WORD PSALM, LITERALLY MEANS PRAISE.

AND YET, THEY ARE MORE THAN JUST PRAISE SONGS, BECAUSE THEY ARE BIRTHED OUT OF PERSONAL EXPERIENCE.

THE WRITERS OF THESE 150 PSALMS DID NOT PEN THE WORDS FOR FAME AND FORTUNE. THEY DID NOT WRITE THEM IN HOPES OF GETTING A MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR CONTRACT FOR THE BEST SELLING BOOK NOR WERE THEY LOOKING FOR THEM TO MAKE THE TOP TEN OF THE GOSPEL CHARTS.

BUT THEY WERE WRITTEN AS AN EXPRESSION OF THEIR PERSONAL EXPERIENCES.

THE LANGUAGE AND THE LYRICS CAME FROM THEIR HEART, NOT JUST FROM THEIR LIPS, TONGUE AND LUNGS.

AND, WHAT I’VE DISCOVERED IS THAT, UNLESS YOU HAVE EXPERIENCED THE LYRICS OF THIS SONG, YOU CANNOT ADEQUATELY EXPRESS THE LANGUAGE OF THE SONG.

FOR YOU SEE, (1) IT DOES NOT MATTER HOW DEEP YOUR BASS. (2) IT DOES MATTER HOW CLEAR YOUR BARITONE. (3) IT MAKES NO DIFFERENCE HOW HIGH YOUR TENOR NOR SOPRANO MIGHT BE. UNLESS YOU’VE EXPERIENCE THE LYRICS OF THE SONG, IT’S HARD TO SING ABOUT THAT WHICH YOU HAVE NOT GONE THROUGH.

IF, YOU’VE NEVER SUFFERED ANY HURT AND PAIN, YOU REALLY CAN’T SING ABOUT HURT AND PAIN.

IF, YOU NEVER EXPERIENCED A LOVE AFFAIR GONE BADLY, YOU WILL NEVER UNDERSTAND THE DEPTHS OF A LOVE SONG.

IF, YOU'VE NEVER HAD PROBLEM YOU CANNOT LISTEN TO BB KING AND BOBBY BLUE BLAND, IT MAKES NO DIFFERENCE HOW MANY CD'S YOU HAVE IN YOUR POSSESSION.

YOU WILL NEVER BE ABLE TO UNDERSTAND THE BLUES UNTIL YOU'VE HAD SOME BLUES IN YOUR LIFE.

TRANSITION

AND, THAT'S WHERE I WANT TO DROP ANCHOR, BECAUSE THE WRITER OF THIS PSALM SEEMS TO HAVE A BAD CASE OF THE BLUES.

DAVID IS DESPERATE, HE'S DESPONDENT AND HE'S IN DESPAIR.

THIS 13TH NUMBER OF PSALMS IS ONE OF 73 SONGS ATTRIBUTED TO DAVID.

YES, ONE THEOLOGIAN HAS SUGGESTED THAT EVERY TIME DAVID WAS FACED WITH TROUBLE IN HIS LIFE, HE WOULD SIT DOWN AND WRITE A SONG.

AND HERE IN THIS PSALM, DAVID ON THE RUN...FLEEING FROM THE WRATH OF SAUL AND HIS ARMY.

HE IS A FUGITIVE...NOT BECAUSE HE AHD COMMITTED SOME. NOT BECAUSE OF SOME CONDUCT UNBECOMING, BUT RATHER, BECAUSE, THERE WAS A CONSPIRACY TO KEEP HIM FROM POSSESSING THE CROWN THAT GOD HAD ANOINTED HIM FOR.

AND MAYBE, THAT'S GOD'S WORD FOR SOMEBODY IN HERE TODAY.

THE REAL REASON YOU'RE CATCHING SO MUCH HELL.

THE REASON THE DEVIL IS ON YOUR TRAIL.

**THE REASON SOME FOLK ARE UT TO GET YOU IS NOT
BECAUSE YOU'VE DONE SOMETHING WRONG.**

**IT'S NOT DUE TO ANY FAULT OF YOUR OWN. BUT SIMPLY
BECAUSE: SOMEBODY WANTS TO KEEP YOU FROM
POSSESSING WHAT GOD HAS PROMISED YOU.**

**FOR YOU SEE, THE DEVIL DOESN'T WANT YOU TO HAVE IT
AND HE WILL USE PEOPLE AND CIRCUMSTANCES TO KEEP
YOU FROM POSSESSING IT.**

**YES, I'VE LEARNED IN LIFE THAT, WHENEVER GOD GETS
READY TO BLESS YOU, YOU CAN ALWAYS COUNT ON THE
DEVIL TO SEND SOMEBODY TO DEPRESS YOU.**

**DEPRESSION AND DESPAIR IS THE ONE TACTIC THAT THE
DEVIL WILL USE TO KILL THE HOPES AND DREAMS OF
GOD'S CHILDREN.**

**THE DEVIL INTENTIONS ARE TO MAKE YOU GIVE UP ON
GOD.**

**WHENEVER YOU MAKE UP IN YOUR MIND TO LEAN AND
DEPEND ON GOD.**

**WHENEVER YOU START FOLLOWING THE DICTATES OF
THE HOLY SPIRIT. THAT'S WHEN THE DEVIL WILL GET
BUSY.**

**YES, HE USES EVERY TRICK IN THE BOOK...HE CREATE ALL
KINDS OF HELL AND HAVOC IN YOUR LIFE, IN ORDER TO
MAKE YOU "GIVE UP ON GOD."**

**HE'LL TRY TO STEAL YOUR JOY, BY USING
CIRCUMSTANCES TO DRIVE YOU INTO DESPAIR.**

**AND HERE IN THIS 13TH NUMBER OF PSALM, HE USES A MAN
BY THE NAME OF SAUL TO DRIVE DAVID INTO DESPAIR!**

**SAUL'S CROWN HAD BEEN CONFISCATED BY THE CREATOR,
AND THEN DELEGATED TO DAVID.**

SAUL HAD TO FORFEIT HIS CROWN AS KING OVER ISRAEL BECAUSE OF HIS FAILURE TO OBEY THE GIVER OF THE CROWN.

AND, I BELIEVE THAT GOD'S WAY OF REMINDING US THAT: "IF YOU ABUSE IT, YOU WILL LOSE IT."

WHAT WE'VE GOT TO UNDERSTAND IS THAT, WHATEVER WE HAVE IS BECAUSE OF GOD.

THE BIBLE SAYS: "ALL GOOD AND PERFECT GIFTS COME FROM ABOVE."

THAT GOOD JOB YOU GOT, THE HOUSE THAT YOU LIVE IN ARE GIFTS FROM GOD, THE TALENTS, THE GOOD HEALTH, THE GOOD FAMILY, A GOOD CHURCH HOME WITH GOOD CHURCH PEOPLE IN IT, A GOOD SPOUSE, WHATEVER YOU HAVE THAT'S GOOD. IT'S A GIFT FROM GOD.

YOU HAVE IT BECAUSE OF GOD.

WHEN GOD GIVES YOU A GIFT IT'S A TRANSFORMATION FROM DESPAIR TO DELIVERANCE.

NOW, I THINK I OUGHT TO TELL AGAIN "IF YOU ABUSE IT, YOU WILL LOSE IT." I TELL YOU:

TRANSFORMATION IS SILENT IN IT COMING

TRANSFORMATION IS SATURATED IN ITS CONTACT

TRANSFORMATION IS REFRESHING IN ITS MINISTRY

TRANSFORMATION IS ALWAYS RICH IN ITS CONTENTS

IT IS SAUL'S UNWILLINGNESS TO LET GO OF WHAT HE NO LONGER OWNED, THAT SERVES AS THE BACKGROUND FOR THIS SONG.

(PSALM 13) IS A SONG OF DESPONDENCY AND DESPAIR BROUGHT ON BY THE DEVIOS BEHAVIOR OF SOMEONE ELSE PROBLEMS?

ISN'T IT AMAZING THE LENGTHS THAT FOLK WILL GO TO MAKE YOUR LIFE UNHAPPY.

IT HAS BEEN SAID THAT: MISERY LOVES COMPANY? AND, BECAUSE SAUL IS UNHAPPY, HE TRIES TO MAKE DAVID'S LIFE A LIVING HELL.

AND, WHILE HE WAS FLEEING FROM THE WRATH OF SAUL DAVID FINDS SHELTER AND SAFETY IN THE CREVICE OF A CAVE.

IN OTHER WORDS, (PSALM 13) IS BIRTHED OUT OF A CAVE EXPERIENCE.

AND, I DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU, BUT I'VE DISCOVERED THAT SOME OF MY MOST HEART FELT WORDS ARE UTTERED NOT WHEN THINGS ARE GOING WELL, BUT WHEN I'M CATCHING HELL.

MOST SINGERS WILL TELL YOU THAT SOME OF THEIR BEST WORK DOES NOT COME WHEN THEY ARE HAVING A MOUNTAIN TOP EXPERIENCE, BUT RATHER WHEN THEY ARE IN THE "VALLEY OF DESPAIR."

I'VE KNOWN FOLK THAT CAN'T CARRY A TUNE IN A BUCKET, BUT WHEN THEY ARE GOING THROUGH SOMETHING. YES, WHEN THEY ARE UP A TREE WITHOUT A LADDER AND THEIR BACK IS AGAINST THE WALL, THEY CAN SING LIKE A MOCKING BIRD.

SOMEBODY OUGHT TO HELP ME NOW!

OH MY BROTHER AND SISTERS, I BELIEVED DAVID PENS (PSALM 13) OUT OF A CAVE EXPERIENCE.

AND, YOU GOT TO UNDERSTAND THAT THE NUMBER 13, IN THE HUMAN PHYSIC CARRIES WITH IT SOME NASTY AND NEGATIVE CONNOTATIONS.

THE NUMBER 13 IS CONSIDERED TO BE AN "UNLUCKY NUMBER."

NO, ATHLETE WANTS TO WEAR THE NO. 13 ON THEIR JERSEY.

NO ONE PLAYS, NUMBER 13 ON A LOTTERY TICKET.

NO HIGH-RISE BUILDING HAS A NUMBER 13, IT WILL SKIP FROM FLOOR 12 TO FLOOR 12.

NO ONE WANTS TO GO TO SLEEP ON AN UNLUCKY FLOOR.

AND YET, IT IS THE 13TH NUMBER OF PSALMS THAT DAVID SHARES WITH US THIS SONG BIRTHED OUT OF A BAD EXPERIENCE.

NOW, TO SOME THIS MAY APPEAR THAT DAVID'S LUCK HAD FINALLY RAN OUT...

PERHAPS, THAT'S WHAT DAVID WAS THINKING WHEN HE SAY IN (VERSE 4) "...LEST MINE ENEMY SAY, I HAVE PREVAILED AGAINST HIM AND THOSE THAT TROUBLE ME REJOICE WHEN I AM MOVED."

DAVID WAS LITERALLY SAYING: LORD, IF YOU DON'T DO SOMETHING FOLK ARE GOING TO THINK THAT MY LUCK HAS FINALLY RUN OUT.

AND, I BELIEVE THAT THE HOLY SPIRIT PLACES THIS PSALM IN THIS PARTICULAR SPOT.

BECAUSE, GOD WANTS US TO KNOW THAT THERE ARE SOME THINGS THAT "LUCK" CAN'T GET YOU OUT OF.

FOR YOU SEE, \$1.00 ON A 3-DIGIT NUMBER CAN'T BAIL YOU OUT OF SOME SITUATIONS.

HOROSCOPES AND HIGH HOPES ON PALM READING WON'T BE ABLE TO SOLVE YOUR PROBLEMS.

YES...I BELIEVE THAT THE SPIRIT PUTS THIS PSALM IN THE NUMBER 13TH SPOT. BECAUSE, GOD WANTED TO SHOW US THAT DAVID WAS NOT DEPENDING ON "LUCK" TO DELIVER HIM, BUT HE WAS DEPENDING ON THE LORD.

YES...IT IS OUT OF A BAD EXPERIENCE THAT GIVES BIRTH TO THIS PSALM.

DAVID IS IN A DESPERATE AND DESPAIRING PREDICAMENT. HE'S HIDING IN A HOLE IN A ROCK.

HE'S LITERALLY AT "GROUND ZERO," IN THE PLACE OF HIS LIFE.

FOR YOU SEE, WHEN YOU'VE HIT ROCK BOTTOM, AND YOUR PROMISING FUTURE HAS FADED INTO OBSCURITY, WHERE HOPES THAT ONE LOOMED LARGER THAN THE WORLD TRADE CENTER HAS NOW COME CRASHING DOWN.

LOOK AT DAVIE, WHO ONCE PLAYED THE HARP FOR THE KING, IS NOW AGONIZING IN A CAVE.

HE, WHO ONCE ATE AND DRANK FROM THE KING'S CUP IS NOW DRINKING FROM THE BITTER CUP OF SORROW.

INSTEAD OF WALKING AROUND IN A CAVE.

HE'S GONE FROM THE TOP TO THE BOTTOM, FROM AN OFFICER TO A FUGITIVE...

HOW DO YOU HANDLE LIFE WHEN IT GETS LIKE THIS?

WHEN EVERYTHING AROUND YOU SEEMS TO BE FALLING APART?

WHEN ANYTHING THAT CAN GO WRONG, GOES WRONG.

WHEN SADNESS, SORROW AND CONSOLATION COMES IN SUCCESSION.

WHEN YOUR FUTURE LOOKS FUZZY, AND YOUR FRIENDS ARE FEW?

WHEN YOU LOOK TO GOD FOR AN ANSWER AND GOD DOESN'T SAY ANYTHING?

AND THAT'S ALL THE WORD OF GOD IS TRYING TO TELL YOU AND I TODAY IS THAT:

WHEN YOU'RE GOING THROUGH THE TRIALS OF LIFE.

**WHEN LIFE'S CIRCUMSTANCES HAVE GOT YOU SINGING
THE BLUES.**

WHEN YOU'RE IN A DITCH WITHOUT A LADDER.

**WHEN YOUR BILLS ARE DUE AND HELLHOUNDS ARE
CHASING YOU.**

**OH, MY BROTHER AND SISTERS, BE NOT DISMAYED NOR
LINGER IN DESPAIR, HAVE CONFIDENCE, THAT GOD WILL
SEE YOU THROUGH!**

**DESPAIR MAY HAVE DRIVEN DAVID TO A CAVE, BUT IT
ALSO DROVE HIM TO PRAY!**

**DAVID LODGES HIS COMPLAINT, BUT IN VERSE 2, HE MAKES
A STARTLING CONFESSION.**

**HE SAYS: "HOW LONG SHALL I TAKE COUNSEL IN MY SOUL,
HAVING SORROW IN MY HEART DAILY?"**

**IN OTHER WORDS, DAVID DISCOVERS THAT HIS PROBLEM
WAS NOT WITH GOD, BUT WITH HIMSELF.**

**DAVID IN HIS COMPLAINT EXPRESSES "AGGRAVATION" AS
A PERSON WOULD FEEL WHEN HE IS BEING PURSUED
RELENTLESSLY LIKE A HUNTED ANIMAL.**

**IN FACT, HE IS SO DEPRESSED BY HIS DILEMMA THAT IT
FELT AS IF THE WALLS OF HIS GRAVE WERE CLOSING IN
ON HIM.**

**HE SAYS IN (VERSE 3) "...CONSIDER AND HEAR ME, O LORD;
LIGHTEN MY EYES, LEST I SLEEP THE SLEEP OF DEATH."**

**AS TO SAY DAVID WAS SAYING: LORD I NEED A
TRANSFORMATION FROM DESPAIR TO DELIVERANCE!**

**AND I THINK I OUGHT TO TELL YOU, WHAT DESPAIR,
DISCOURAGEMENT AND DEPENDENCY WILL DO.**

IT WILL SEND YOU TO AN EARLY GRAVE. I'VE KNOWN FOLK WHO DIDN'T DIE OF ANY DEBILITATING DISEASE!

I'VE KNOW FOLK WHO DIDN'T CRACK UP AND CHECK OUT BECAUSE OF SOME CHRONIC AILMENT.

BUT THEY DIED BECAUSE THEY WORRIED THEMSELVES TO DEATH.

HOW DO YOU HANDLE IT, WHEN GOD GETS SILENT ON YOU?

DAVID, IN HIS DESPAIR BURIES HIMSELF IN THE ISOLATION AND CIRCULATION OF A CAVE.

NOW, ISN'T IT AMAZING THAT THE PLACES DESPAIR WILL DRIVE YOU TO?

DESPAIR HAS DRIVEN SOME FOLK INTO SUICIDE.

DESPAIR HAS DRIVEN SOME FOLK TO A LIFE OF CRIME.

DESPAIR HAS DRIVEN SOME FOLK TO SMOKE ONE CIGARETTE AFTER ANOTHER.

DESPAIR HAS DRIVEN SOME FOLK TO BECOME DEPRESS.

DESPAIR HAS DRIVEN SOME FOLK TO HAVE AN UNPLEASANT DEMEANOR.

DESPAIR HAS DRIVEN SOME FOLK TO LOSE THEIR MIND.

DESPAIR HAS DRIVEN SOME FOLK TO A LIFE OF GAMBLING.

DESPAIR HAS DRIVEN SOME FOLK TO THE BOTTLE AND DRUGS.

AND HERE IN THIS PSALM, DESPAIR HAS DRIVEN DAVID INTO A CAVE!

**AND, I BELIEVE I'VE GOT SOMEBODY'S ATTENTION,
BECAUSE THAT'S WHERE SOMEBODY'S LIFE IS RIGHT
NOW...YOU'RE IN A "CAVE."**

**AND, A CAVE, IN THOSE DAYS SERVED NOT ONLY AS
SHELTER FROM THE STORMS, BUT ALSO AS A BURIAL
GROUND.**

**AND IF THE TRUTH WERE TOLD, THERE'S SOMEBODY IN
HERE TODAY WHO HAS:**

**BURIED YOUR SELF IN A CAVE OF DESPAIR AND
DISCONTENT.**

BURIED YOUR SELF IN A CAVE OF GUILT AND REGRETS.

**BURIED YOUR SELF IN A CAVE OF FAILURES AND
FRUSTRATIONS.**

**BURIED YOUR SELF IN A CAVE SEEKING TO FIND SOME
KIND OF SHELTER FROM THE SHAMS OF LIFE.**

**BURIED YOUR SELF IN A CAVE HOPING TO FIND JUST A
LITTLE BIT OF PEACE AND CONSOLATION! BUT, FINDING
NONE.**

WAVE YOUR HAND, IF I'M ON YOUR STREET!

WELL, IF THAT'S YOU TODAY?

**(1) IF, YOU'RE TRYING TO FIND SOME RELIEF FROM YOUR
DESPAIR.**

(2) IF, YOU'RE AT THE POINT OF ALMOST GIVING UP.

**(3) IF, YOU'VE RAN AS FAR...AND AS FAST...AS YOU CAN TO
ESCAPE YOUR AVE MAN MENTALITY AND DILEMMAS, I
THINK I OUGHT TO TELL YOU, THAT THERE IS HOPE, EVEN
AT GROUND ZERO.**

**BECAUSE, THE GOD WE SERVE IS IN THE BUSINESS OF
DELIVERING THOSE OF US WHO ARE DEALING WITH
DESPAIR!**

**YES, WHILE DAVID WAS IN HIS CAVE OF CHAOS AND
CONFUSION.**

**WHILE DAVID IN HIS HOLE OF DESPAIR AND DISCONTENT:
DAVID FINDS GOD AT GROUND ZERO.**

NOW, LOOK AT THE TEXT HERE!

**IN (VERSE 1) HE'S IN DESPAIR – BUT – (IN VERSE 6) HE'S
BEEN DELIVERED.**

**IN (VERSE 1) HE'S STRUGGLING – BUT – (IN VERSE 6) HE'S
SINGING.**

**IN (VERSE 1) HE'S SEEKING GOD – BUT – (IN VERSE 6) HE'S
FOUND GOD.**

**WELL, MY BROTHERS AND SISTERS, IF YOU TRUST IN THE
LORD, JUST WATCH THE PROGRESSION AND SEE WHAT
GOD CAN DO!**

**DAVID'S "AGGRAVATION" LEAD HIM TO LODGE AN
"ACCUSATION."**

LOOK AT DAVID'S CAVE MAN MENTALITY IN THIS TEXT.

HE ACCUSES GOD OF FORGETTING AND FORSAKING HIM.

**HE SAYS: "HOW LONG WILT THOU FORGET ME, O LORD:
FOREVER? HOW LONG WILT THOU HID THY FACE FROM
ME?"**

WATCH HOW HE MOVES FROM, DESPAIR TO DELIVERANCE.

**FIRST OF ALL, NOTICE THAT DAVID'S COMPLAINS, (4) TIMES
IN THESE (6) SHORT VERSES, DAVID UTTERS FORTH HIS
COMPLAINT TO GOD.**

HE SAY: HOW LONG!

HOW LONG, WILL YOU FORGET ME, O LORD?

HOW LONG, WILL YOU HIDE YOUR FACE FROM DESPAIR?

HOW LONG, SHALL I TAKE COUNSEL IN MY SOUL?

HOW LONG, SHALL MY ENEMY BE EXALTED OVER ME?

THIS CRY OF “HOW LONG,” SUGGEST AGGRAVATION ON DAVID’S PART.

DAVID BECOMES AGGRAVATED OVER THE LENGTH OF HIS DEPRESSION AND DESPAIR.

WHAT HE HAD TO ENDURE WASN’T JUST A DAY OF AGONY OR A WEEKEND OF MISERY.

IT WAS...A CONSTANT AND CONTINUAL STRUGGLE WITH DESPAIR EVERY DAY OF HIS LIFE.

AND, I DON’T KNOW ABOUT YOU BUT, BUT I CAN HANDLE MISERY FOR A NIGHT.

I CAN DEAL WITH ONE PROBLEM AT A TIME.

I CAN ENDURE SUFFERING FOR A LITTLE WHILE.

YOU’LL DON’T HEAR ME! BUT:

WHEN MY AGONIES COMES LIKE AN AVALANCHE ROLLING DOWN ON ME...ALL THE TIME.

WHEN EVERYTHING AROUND ME SEEMS TO BE FALLING APART...ALL THE TIME.

WHEN I GOT A PORTFOLIO OF PROBLEMS...ALL THE TIME.

WHEN I’M GOING THROUGH A SERIES OF SUFFERINGS AND FEEL LIKE A LOSER...ALL THE TIME.

WHEN I FEEL LIKE I’M PLAYING A BALL GAME ON A RAINY DAY...ALL THE TIME...ALL THE TIME.

WHEN I FEEL LIKE A PIECE OF GUM WRAPPER IN A TRASH TRUCK DISTANCE FOR THE CITY DUMP...ALL THE TIME.

YES...IT'LL MAKE YOU WANT TO CRY OUT: "HOW LONG, O LORD?"

HOW LONG...MUST I ENDURE THIS PAIN FO SUFFERING?

HOW LONG... MUST I HANG MY HEAD IN DESPAIR?

HOW LONG...MUST I DEAL WITH THIS DILEMMA? HOW LONG?

WATCH HOW DAVID MOVES FROM, DESPAIR TO DELIVERANCE.

WATCH HOW A TRANSFORMATION FROM DESPAIR TO DELIVERANCE TAKES PLACE.

IF WE EXPECT TO BE DELIVERED FROM OUR DILEMMA!

IF WE WANT RELEASE FROM THE ANXIETY OF OUR DESPAIR...THEN (BABY)...WE'VE GOT TO TAKE OUR MINDS AND HANDS OFF OF IT, AND LET GOD HANDLE IT...

IN OTHER WORDS: "LET GO AND LET GOD!"

DAVID'S PRAYER AND SUPPLICATION CAUSED HIM TO DO SOME REFLECTION!"

HE SAYS IN (VERSE 5): "BUT, I HAVE TRUSTED IN THY MERCY,"

AND, THE MESSAGE TO US TODAY IS THAT: WHILE WE'RE DROWNING OUR SELVES IN DESPAIR, HAVING OUR PITY PARTY. MAYBE ITS TIME WE START REFLECTING WHAT GOD HAS ALREADY BROUGHT US THROUGH.

THIS AIN'T THE FIRST TIME, YOU'VE BEEN DOWN, AND GOD PICKED UP!

THIS AIN'T THE FIRST TIME, YOU'VE BEEN IN SORROW'S VALLEY, AND GOD WIPED THE TEARS FROM YOUR EYES...OH LORD...

**THIS AIN'T THE FIRST TIME, YOUR BACK HAS BEEN
AGAINST THE WALL.**

**THIS AIN'T THE FIRST TIME, YOU'VE HAD SATAN TRYING
TO TEAR YOU DOWN.**

**THIS AIN'T THE FIRST TIME, YOU'VE BEEN BROKE, BUSTED
AND DISGUSTED.**

AND THROUGH IT ALL, GOD DELIVERED YOU...

DAVID IS STILL IN THE CREVICE OF A CAVE.

HE'S STILL RUNNING FOR HIS LIFE.

HE'S STILL DUCKING AND DODGING THE WRATH OF SAUL.

**BUT HE HAS COMFORT AND CONSOLATION BECAUSE OF HIS
CONFIDENCE THAT GOD WILL DELIVER HIM FROM HIS
DESPAIR.**

**DAVID BEGAN TO PRAISE GOD! HE SAYS, MY HEART SHALL
REJOICE IN THY SALVATION.**

**IN OTHER WORDS DAVID SAYS: LORD I'M NOT ONLY GOING
TO PRAISE YOU FOR WHAT YOU'VE ALREADY DONE. I'M
GOING TO PRAISE YOU FOR WHAT YOU'RE ABOUT TO DO.**

**BECAUSE YOU ARE A GOD OF TRANSFORMATION FROM
DESPAIR TO DELIVERANCE!**

YOU DELIVERED NOAH FROM A 40 DAY FLOOD.

YOU DELIVERED DANIEL FROM A LION'S DEN.

**YOU DELIVERED SHADRACK, MESHACK AND ABENDIGO
FROM A FIERY FURNACE.**

YOU DELIVERED JOSEPH FROM A PIT IN THE DESERT.

YOU DELIVERED JEREMIAH FROM A DARKEN DUNGEON.

YOU DELIVERED JONAH FROM THE BELLY OF A FISH.

YOU DELIVERED PAUL AND SILAS FROM A PRISON CELL.

AND I KNOW... YOU'RE ABLE TO DELIVER ME!

**THIS JOY THAT I HAVE, THE WORLD DIDN'T GIVE IT TO ME
AND THE WORLD CAN'T TAKE IT AWAY!**

**JESUS CAME, THAT I MIGHT HAVE LIFE AND HAVE LIFE
MORE ABUNDANTLY.**

HE DIED, BECAUSE I WAS IN DESPAIR!

BUT HE ROSE THAT I MIGHT BE DELIVERED.

**YES...HE GOT UP OUT OF THE GRAVE! THAT I MIGHT RISE
ABOVE MY CIRCUMSTANCES.**