

Week 45
305/60

Transforming Daily
“...*the strength of my heart*...”
Psalm 73:26

King David wrote so many wonderful psalms of encouragement. However, they exist because of his experience with trials and temptations, and the subsequent adversities therein. His world of hard knocks can be used for the believer's benefit. Whether self-induced by David, or received at hands of jealous and envious enemies, his ultimate conclusion was always to bless God and praise His name!

David experienced many great blessings as well as many great burdens. As a matter of biblical record, his burdens were inextricably linked to his blessings. On the other hand, how he dealt with the various trials and temptations in life seemed to be extremely painful and costly. Of course, as king of Israel, everything he did was magnified to another level of intensification. This effect was both physically and spiritually exacted.

Except for David's kingship over Israel, the believer's life is no different than his. The believer is faced everyday with similar trials and temptations and the subsequent adversities therein. Just as David was responsible for his actions, the believer is responsible for his or her own actions. Just as David was held accountable for his actions, the believer is, and will be, held accountable for his or her own actions. Further, just as David had God for his advocate in times of trials, troubles, tribulations and temptations, the 21st century believer has God as his or her advocate. As a matter of fact, the enemy of God is at enmity with the believer.

The modern day believer doesn't have to experience what David experienced in order to benefit from his psalms. Besides, the outcome would be the same. All the believer has to do is hear and heed the Word of God in order to identify with the psalms of David. Many of the psalms of David emphasize his personal weaknesses and the persistent evil works of his enemy. Yet, David claims victory going into, in the midst of, or coming out from the pressing circumstances. His single defense is the name, presence, and person of God in his life. It's not that David didn't experience pain and suffering, but that he did so by leaning on the everlasting arms of God.

Do you praise God in the midst of difficulty? Do you praise Him in the midst of bounty? Do you praise God only when things are going well? Do you praise God at all? Ask yourself, “Is God the strength of my heart?”