

HA'AZINU

II SAMUEL 22:1-51

Chapter 22

¹ David addressed the words of this song to the Lord, after the Lord had saved him from the hands of all his enemies and from the hands of Saul. ² He said:

O Lord, my crag, my fastness, my deliverer!

³ *O God, the rock wherein I take shelter:*

My shield, my mighty champion, my fortress and refuge!

My savior, You who rescue me from violence!

⁴ *All praise! I called on the Lord,*

And I was delivered from my enemies.

⁵ *For the breakers of Death encompassed me,*

The torrents of Belial terrified me;

⁶ *The snares of Sheol encircled me,*

The toils of Death engulfed me.

⁷ *In my anguish I called on the Lord,*

Cried out to my God;

In His Abode He heard my voice,

My cry entered His ears.

⁸ *Then the earth rocked and quaked,*

The foundations of heaven shook —

Rocked by His indignation.

⁹ *Smoke went up from His nostrils,*

From His mouth came devouring fire;

Live coals blazed forth from Him.

¹⁰ *He bent the sky and came down,*

Thick cloud beneath His feet.

¹¹ *He mounted a cherub and flew;*

He was seen on the wings of the wind.

¹² *He made pavilions of darkness about Him,*

Dripping clouds, huge thunderheads;

¹³ *In the brilliance before Him*

Blazed fiery coals.

¹⁴ *The Lord thundered forth from heaven,*

The Most High sent forth His voice;

¹⁵ *He let loose bolts, and scattered them;*

Lightning, and put them to rout.

¹⁶ *The bed of the sea was exposed,*

The foundations of the world were laid bare

By the mighty roaring of the Lord,

At the blast of the breath of His nostrils.

¹⁷ *He reached down from on high, He took me,*

Drew me out of the mighty waters;

¹⁸ *He rescued me from my enemy so strong,*

From foes too mighty for me.

¹⁹ *They attacked me on my day of calamity,*

But the Lord was my stay.

²⁰ *He brought me out to freedom,*

He rescued me because He was pleased with me.

²¹ *The Lord rewarded me according to my merit,*

He requited the cleanness of my hands.

²² *For I have kept the ways of the Lord*

And have not been guilty before my God;

²³ *I am mindful of all His rules*

And have not departed from His laws.

²⁴ *I have been blameless before Him,*

And have guarded myself against sinning —

²⁵ *And the Lord has requited my merit,*

According to my purity in His sight.

²⁶ *With the loyal You deal loyally;*

With the blameless hero, blamelessly.

²⁷ *With the pure You act in purity,*

And with the perverse You are wily.

²⁸ *To humble folk You give victory,
And You look with scorn on the haughty.*

²⁹ *You, O Lord, are my lamp;
The Lord lights up my darkness.*

³⁰ *With You, I can rush a barrier,
With my God, I can scale a wall.*

³¹ *The way of God is perfect,
The word of the Lord is pure.
He is a shield to all who take refuge in Him.*

³² *Yea, who is a god except the Lord,
Who is a rock except God —*

³³ *The God, my mighty stronghold,
Who kept my path secure;*

³⁴ *Who made my legs like a deer's,
And set me firm on the heights;*

³⁵ *Who trained my hands for battle,
So that my arms can bend a bow of bronze!*

³⁶ *You have granted me the shield of Your protection
And Your providence has made me great.*

³⁷ *You have let me stride on freely,
And my feet have not slipped.*

³⁸ *I pursued my enemies and wiped them out,
I did not turn back till I destroyed them.*

³⁹ *I destroyed them, I struck them down;
They rose no more, they lay at my feet.*

⁴⁰ *You have girt me with strength for battle,
Brought low my foes before me,*

⁴¹ *Made my enemies turn tail before me,
My foes — and I wiped them out.*

⁴² *They looked, but there was none to deliver;
To the Lord, but He answered them not.*

⁴³ *I pounded them like dust of the earth,
Stamped, crushed them like dirt of the streets.*

⁴⁴ *You have rescued me from the strife of peoples,
Kept me to be a ruler of nations;
Peoples I knew not must serve me.*

⁴⁵ *Aliens have cringed before me,
Paid me homage at the mere report of me.*

⁴⁶ *Aliens have lost courage
And come trembling out of their fastnesses.*

⁴⁷ *The Lord lives! Blessed is my rock!
Exalted be God, the rock
Who gives me victory;*

⁴⁸ *The God who has vindicated me
And made peoples subject to me,*

⁴⁹ *Rescued me from my enemies,
Raised me clear of my foes,
Saved me from lawless men!*

⁵⁰ *For this I sing Your praise among the nations
And hymn Your name:*

⁵¹ *Tower of victory to His king,
Who deals graciously with His anointed,
With David and his offspring evermore.*