

Psalm 118

Praise the LORD with me

- ¹ Praise and thank the LORD because His tender love and kindness are eternal.
- ² Israel, say along with me that His tender love and kindness are eternal.
- ³ You priests, say along with me that His tender love and kindness are eternal.
- ⁴ All of you who fear the LORD, say along with me that His tender love and kindness are eternal.

I prayed, and God helped me

⁵ When I was in distress I called upon the LORD in prayer asking Him to help me. He not only heard my prayer, but He answered me by rescuing me from my enemies so that I could go anywhere and do anything without fear of reprisal or injury. ⁶ I know that the LORD is on my side, so there is nothing man can do to me unless the LORD allows it ⁷ The LORD favors me and all those who have helped me. As a result, I will look with satisfaction upon my enemies when they are thoroughly defeated. ⁸⁻⁹ It is so much better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in men or political leaders.

Before the LORD rescued me I was helpless and almost defeated

¹⁰⁻¹¹ I was surrounded by hostile nations, but in the name of the LORD and by His power I will surely defeat them. ¹² Those enemies surrounded me like a hive of angry bees, but they were extinguished like a raging fire under a bee hive. As I said, I will defeat them in the name of the LORD. ¹³ The people of those nations pushed against me so violently that I was about to fall under their attacks, but the LORD helped me.

The LORD is my song of joy

¹⁴ The LORD has rescued me and has become my strength and my song. ¹⁵⁻¹⁶ Now the shout of joy and praise for the LORD's salvation can be heard in the tents of my people. They are shouting about how the LORD does valiantly and how by His power He has won the victory. ¹⁷⁻¹⁸ The LORD has disciplined me severely, but He has not disciplined me to the point of death. Instead, I am still alive to praise the LORD for His wonderful works.

¹⁹ Open the doors of the church, and I will enter in and give thanks to the LORD. ²⁰ That is where good and godly people love to enter. ²¹ LORD, You have answered my cry for help and saved me. Therefore I will thank and praise You.

Everything rests upon Jesus Christ

²² Jesus Christ was rejected by the Jews, but He is the cornerstone of the church. ²³ The Father ordained this and brought it to pass, and it is marvelous in our eyes. ²⁴ This is the day the LORD has made. Let us rejoice and be glad that the LORD has given us one more day to serve Him! ²⁵ LORD, Israel is a small and weak nation¹, so please save us from our enemies when they attempt to hurt us. Also, please bless us with prosperity. ²⁶ Blessed are those in our day who believe in and follow Jesus Christ². We who know Him bless His name for the great things He has done. ²⁷ Jesus Christ, the LORD, is God, and He has shown us the light.

Meet Him at the altar, and give Him the sacrifice of thanksgiving. Make it something you do over and over and over again.²⁸ LORD Jesus, You are my God, and I will thank and exalt You because You are good. You bestow Your tender love and kindness upon Your children both now and through all eternity. Praise the LORD!

¹ Peter A. Steveson. Psalms, copyright BJU Press, Greenville, South Carolina, pg. 459

² In John 14:6, Christ said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No man comes to the Father but by me." Therefore, the name "Jesus Christ" has been used."

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