

His Perfecting Us
Psalm 18:30-36 (33)
8-15-2010

“...He enables me to stand..”

David here in Psalm 18 gives praise to God because He is the one who is worthy of praise and honor and glory because He is the one who empowers and strengthens and enables. This enabling that God works in humanity is the subject of this lesson.

In recognition of my position in Christ and in His Church I have a cooperation with Him and with you to labor towards for your enabling and His glory. (Eph.4:12) Each and everyone of us are compelled by Holy Scripture to trust our lives and futures to God. If He can establish the universe and it remain working with flawless perfection, can't He also be trusted with your life? (Heb.11:3, 13:20-21)

If there is any truth to the great commission then that truth must first be fulfilled in us. (Mat.28:18-20) Consider that a student becomes like the teacher. You can not make what you are not. (Lk.6:40) If we are to accomplish the great commission then by reason of truth we must first be disciples who are well on the path to perfection.

This journey heavenward that you and I are on requires our trusting God to accomplish His vision for each of us as the master Potter. (Rm.9:21-23) Who has the power of the clay? We all can likely attest to the fact that this journey we are on is not all peaches and cream. It often times is extremely difficult. That is why our trust is not in ourselves or our country or our jobs or our church or its preacher. (1Pet.5:10 (5-11)) He is the restorer, the perfecter, the one who makes complete.

In all of the passages used in this lesson there is a common word in each for what God is working in us. (except Mat.28:18-20) This word in its primary usage is found in Mat.4:21 “...They were in a boat with their father Zebedee, preparing their nets. ...” Your version might say “mending their nets” This word and its various forms has to do with repair, put in order, arrange, nit together (as a broken bone is nit) bring

together, perfect or mature. A good example of our journey and this words usage in our lives is found in Gal.6:1-2 “Brothers, if someone is caught in a sin, you who are spiritual should restore him gently. But watch yourself, or you also may be tempted.”² Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.”

There is not a single person in the world who has not been damaged by the ravages of sin. Since this is true then there also is not a person in the world who is not in need of some mending. This is where trust and faith in God come into play. We can not see what the final mended person looks like. Only God, the Master Potter, knows what we each should and will look like in Him.

Paul knew that God's hand was working out his own perfecting by the things he endured and suffered through. He also understood that those whom God gave him some responsibility towards also were being worked on by God's mastery to their perfecting. His prayer for them – have faith in the fact that God knows what He is doing, so let Him finish His work. (1Thes.3:9-13 (10))

We can see and know from what Paul wrote to the Corinthian Church that they had many lingering problems of the flesh. They were not yet where God would have them to be. Neither are we or anyone else for that matter, we are all on the same journey. Take courage, God is working out our mending. Just as God through Paul was working out Corinth's damaged lives, God is working in you that which is proper and good. (1Cor.1:10; 2Cor.13:11) As David through God's Word took faith be encouraged to do like wise, have faith in God.

Ps 18:30 As for God, his way is perfect; the word of the LORD is flawless. He is a shield for all who take refuge in him.³¹ For who is God besides the LORD? And who is the Rock except our God?³² It is God who arms me with strength and makes my way perfect.³³ He makes my feet like the feet of a deer; he enables me to stand on the heights.³⁴ He trains my hands for battle; my arms can bend a bow of bronze.³⁵ You give me your shield of victory, and your right hand sustains me; you stoop down to make me great.³⁶ You broaden the path beneath me, so that my ankles do not turn.