

PRAYING PSALM 18 (PART II)

“The Lord rewarded me according to my righteousness...” (Psalm 18:20-30).

David gave the reason for God’s deliverance (20-24). He was righteous in the sight of God. His hands were clean. He kept the ways of the Lord. He did not ignore God’s laws. He was blameless before God. He kept himself from iniquity. Therefore, the Lord rewarded him according to his righteousness. David acknowledged that God deals with men according to their ways (25-30). With the merciful God is merciful. With the blameless God is blameless. With the pure God is pure. With the devious God is shrewd. God saves humble people and brings down the haughty. God’s way is always perfect.

Prayer is honest communication with God. God is shrewd. He isn’t deceived by insincere confessions. He isn’t moved by flattery. Prayer is more than carefully planned words and recitations, more than emotional appeals, more than positive affirmations. Prayer is authentic fellowship with a merciful, blameless, pure God. If our prayers aren’t pure in motive God won’t hear them. God rejects devious ways and ignores insincere prayers. When you go before God, ask Him to search your heart. Ask Him to examine your ways. Let the Spirit your soul and spirit. Trust Him to discern the thoughts and intents of your heart (Hebrews 4:12). Let prayer refine you. Then seek His will.