

29. Praise Brings Deliverance

Once again we want continue to look at this tremendous power that can come into our lives if we learn how to praise God in all situations.

God allows Satan to harass and trouble His children in many ways. Why do you think God allows that? God is wise, and He can destroy Satan in a moment, if He likes. But He doesn't do it, because He accomplishes something good through it. That is why He has permitted Satan to continue to exist. Fire, for example, is dangerous but fire can purify gold. In the same way, God can use the trials, the persecutions, and the oppression that Satan can bring upon His children, to purify them, just like gold is purified. But we have to react in a proper way, in a good way to those trials and temptations.

The right way to react, if you have faith, is with a spirit of praise: 'Lord I will not complain here. I am suffering, perhaps I am going through a difficult time, but I will not lose my faith. God is on the throne and the devil is defeated on the cross. My sins are forgiven. My past is blotted out. I am on my way to heaven. Jesus is my Lord; my heavenly bridegroom, and God is making everything work together for my good.' And when we remain in the spirit of thanksgiving and praise like that, in every situation, you know what happens?

I want show you a wonderful verse in Psalm 50. In Psalm 50:23, we read, "The one who offers a sacrifice of thanksgiving honours Me, says the Lord, and makes a way for Me to show him My deliverance." That is the literal translation of that verse that, anyone who offers a sacrifice of thanksgiving honours God and, in doing that, he makes a way for God to show him God's

29. 赞美带来解脱

现在我们要再一次考查，若能学会无论任何境遇都赞美神，我们的生命可以获得的巨大能力。

上帝允许撒但用很多方式骚扰祂的儿女们。你觉得这是为什么呢？上帝是充满智慧的，并且假如祂愿意，一下子就可以除掉撒但。可祂并没有那么做，那是因为祂要利用撒但来成就更美好的事情。所以现在祂仍然允许撒但的存在。打个比方，火是危险的，可是却能被用来炼金子。同样的，上帝利用这些试炼和撒但对祂儿女的迫害来帮助我们成长，像炼金子一样炼净我们。然而，这需要我们对试炼和诱惑做出正确的回应。

这正确的回应，是带着那在信心中对神颂赞的灵说，“主啊，此刻我不想抱怨。虽然我正在受苦，或许我还要经历一段艰难的时光，可我不要失去信心。上帝坐在宝座上为王，魔鬼已经完全败在了十字架上。我全部的罪都已经得到了赦免，过去已经一笔勾销。我正在去天国的路上。耶稣是我的主，是我在天上的新郎。神让万事互相效力，使我得益处。”当任何境遇我们都在如此感恩赞美的灵里时，你猜会怎样？

我想指给你诗篇 50 一处绝妙的经文。诗篇 50 章 23 节说，“凡以感谢献上为祭的便是荣耀我。那按正路而行的，我必使他得着我的救恩。”这节经文直接翻译出来的意思就是，任何人若将感谢献上作祭物，就荣耀神，这样做的时候，也为上帝给你的救赎铺路。这话是什么意思？那是说，当你被环境逼得走投无路，想让神来解救你时，你需要为神铺路迎接祂对你的拯救。如果你不用赞美来开路，神就不能救你。

deliverance or Salvation. Now what does that mean? It means that if you are in a tight spot right now, and you want God to deliver you from it, you have to make a way for God to show you that deliverance; for God to bring that deliverance. God will do the deliverance, but He cannot do that until you open a way for it and the way we open the way is by praising the Lord.

That is what it says here: 'The one who offers a sacrifice of thanksgiving makes a way for God to bring deliverance in that situation.' This means that there are many situations out of which we could have been delivered, if we had praised God instead of complaining against people and against the devil - Because praise is the mark of faith. They believed his words, they sang His praise. If you don't praise God, God can do nothing for you, because you don't believe Him. 'Without faith, it is impossible to please God,' we read in Hebrews. But with faith you can shut the mouth of lions, you can put enemies to flight, you can open prison doors. With faith, people even got their dead children back to life. Faith is a tremendous power and faith is manifested in praise.

Now praying alone cannot deliver us out of some situation. It is good to pray when you are in a tight spot but, in addition to prayer, we must learn how to praise. In other words, we must keep on praying until we reach the point where we don't have to pray anymore. We have an assurance in our heart, the Holy Spirit gives us a witness in our heart, God has heard our prayer and then, what do you do after that? Supposing you are asking for something and, after sometime, you hear a witness in your spirit that it is been granted, what do you do? Then you praise God, you thank Him. Faith is then born and we believe that we have received, like Jesus said, "When you pray believe that you have received." You can't do that at the beginning, but as you

这里说的就是，对神献上感激为祭的人，为上帝在那个环境里准备了拯救的道路。也就是说，假如我们赞美神，而不是抱怨人，甚至抱怨魔鬼，曾经有很多境遇，我们原本是可以得到帮助的。因为赞美是信心的标志。相信祂话语的人，会唱着赞美祂。你若不赞美祂，祂就不能为你做什么，因为你并不相信祂。我们在希伯来书看到“人非有信，就不能得神的喜悦”。而靠着信心，你能让狮子闭嘴，让敌人逃窜，让监牢门打开。信心甚至能让人见到他们的孩子死而复生。信心是巨大的力量，而信心是通过真心的赞美来彰显的。

有些境况单靠着祷告我们得不到释放。在艰难的境况里祷告是对的，只是在祷告之外，我们必须学会如何赞美。换句话说，我们必须一直祷告，直到这件事得到解决而不需要再祷告为止。当你心里有了确信，神已垂听了你的祷告，那时的你会怎么做？假设你一直在求某样东西，过了一段时间，你在灵里听到了确信，那样东西已经赐给你了，那时的你会怎么做？这时你一定会赞美神，感谢祂。这时信心产生了，我们相信自己得到了神的回答，如同主耶稣说，“祷告祈求时要信已经得着。”在一开始的时候，当你还无法做到，但当你继续不断的祷告，会在某一个时候开始你相信自己会得着。即使那个回应还没有实现，你暂时还不能用眼看见，可你赞美神就定会得到那应许。在你内心得到确信那个时刻，就可以停止祷告祈求，转而赞美神。这就是信心的证明，通过这样的赞美，

continue to pray, you come to a point where you believe that you receive. Even though the answer has not yet come, you can't see the answer yet, but you praise God and then we will receive what we pray for. When that point comes, we stop praying and start praising God. That is the evidence of faith and then, through that praise, we make a way for the God to show us His deliverance.

Now there is a wonderful example of this in the Old Testament, in 2 Chronicles 20. It is unfortunate that some believers don't read the Old Testament so much, particularly the Books of Chronicles. They are not so familiar with it. Here is beautiful story where we read of a great multitude of enemies that surrounded King Jehoshaphat. When King Jehoshaphat was surrounded by such a great multitude of enemies, he called the whole nation of Judah to seek God in fasting and prayer. That was absolutely a proper thing to do.

They prayed to God and, in their prayer, they acknowledged three things. You know what they said to God? They acknowledged their helplessness, they acknowledged their foolishness, and then they acknowledged their faith (2 Chr. 20:12). Now these are the three things we need to acknowledge too. It is easy to acknowledge our helplessness and our foolishness, to say, 'Well Lord, we have got no strength against this situation and we don't know what to do.' We can say that in all situations, but nothing happens, if you stop there. You got go on and say, 'Lord we believe that you will answer us.'

Now notice the prayer that Jehoshaphat prayed, in 2 Chronicles 20:6-12. You see, this is a pattern for prayer, something that we can learn from Jehoshaphat. Notice the seven things he prayed for. First of all, he praised God for His Sovereignty

我们为神给的解救预备道路。

旧约历代志下 20 章有一个绝妙的例子。很遗憾现今很多信徒都不怎么读旧约了，特别是历代志。他们对这些经文都不怎么熟悉。这里我们看到约沙法被众多敌人攻击时发生的绝妙故事。当约沙法被如此多敌人围攻的时候，他呼召了全犹大地的人禁食祷告，寻求耶和华。在那样的时刻，正是他该做的。

他们向神祷告，在祷告中，他们向神坦诚了三件事。他们是怎么说的？首先，他们承认自己的无助；尔后他们承认自己愚笨；最后他们表明了信心（历代志下 20 章 12 节）。这也是我们需要对神表明三件事。在这样的时刻对神承认自己的无助和愚笨很容易，说“哦我的神啊，对这个境况我毫无能力，也不知道该怎么做。”在各种情形下我们都可以这么说，可是如果你就只说这么多，那么什么都不会发生。我们需要继续说，“主啊，我们相信你定会垂听。”

下面请留意，历代志下 20 章 6 到 12 节里，约沙法是如何祷告的。这就是祷告该有的模式，我们该向约沙法来学习。请留意他祷告的七个内容。首先，第 6 节他赞美神至高无上的属天的权柄。他说，“主你是万邦万国的主宰，在你手中有大能大力，无人能抵挡

(verse 6). He said, 'Lord you are the ruler over all the kingdoms of the nations; power and might are in your hand, no one can stand against you.' You know when we pray to God, it is good to remind ourselves, first of all, of the sovereignty of God. Jesus said, 'When you pray, say, 'Our Father,' and then what, 'who art in Heaven.' That means the one who is the sovereign ruler from Heaven.

Then the second thing that Jehoshaphat reminded God and reminded himself of was what God had done in past days. 'Lord, are You not the one who drove out the Canaanites from this land and You gave it to the descendants of Abraham forever' (verse 7). See, if we remind ourselves of what God has done for us in the past, then that really stirs our faith. You know, sometimes you are facing a very difficult situation and you feel there is no way out. Why don't you look back over your life and think of the many, many, many times in your life where you felt that there was no way out, and God made a way out! That stirs up faith in your heart.

Then the third thing we read is that Jehoshaphat reminded God of His promise in His word. He said, 'Didn't you say Lord that, if evil comes upon us or the sword and, if we stand before You in this house and cry to You, You will deliver us' (verse 9). And that is another good thing to have when we are in a tight situation - some promise from the word of God. It could be a simple promise like we have in Psalm 50 which says, 'Call upon me in the day of trouble and I will deliver you.' Say, 'Lord you promise that'. Do it now. It is good to know the promises of Scriptures. It is good to memorize the promises of God in Scriptures so that you can quote them in prayer. It strengthens faith; it is fuel for faith. You know, it is like putting fuel in the fire, then the fire burns brighter. If you don't have any promises then the fire of faith burns very low.

你。”你知道吗，当我们向神祷告时，最好首先提醒我们自己，神是至高无上的主宰。主耶稣教我们祷告时说，“我们那在天上的父。”说的意思就是这一位是至高的主宰。

尔后约沙法说的第二件事，是提醒神，也提醒自己，以往神是如何帮助自己的，第 7 节说“我们的神啊，你不是曾在你民以色列人面前驱逐这地的居民，将这地赐给你朋友亚伯拉罕的后裔永远为业吗？”你看，当我们提醒自己，从前神如何帮助过我们，那真会激发我们的信心。你知道吗，有时候当你面对困境，无法想象出路的时候，为何不回头看看过往的人生，有多少次你自以为无路可走的时候，神带你走出了困境！那能激发你心中的信心。

尔后你看到约沙法说的第三件事是提醒神祂的承诺。第 9 节他说，“主你不是说，倘有祸患临到我们，或刀兵灾殃，或瘟疫饥荒，我们在急难的时候，站在这殿前向你呼求，你必垂听而拯救，因为你的名在这殿里。”这是我们在困境里当作的另一件非常有用的事情，就是神的应许。这应许可以像诗篇 50 篇里的，“在患难之日求告我，我必搭救你”，然后对神说，“主你答应我的。”现在就来这么做。我们应当了解《圣经》里神的应许。牢记神在《圣经》里的应许，这样在你祷告之时就可以引用。这能坚固信心，如同为信心之火添柴，让火焰愈加旺盛。离了神的应许，信心的火苗就很微弱。

Fourthly, we read in verse 11 that he reminded God saying, 'We are your inheritance.' We are not just like other people in the world. We are your inheritance, You purchased us. That is the fourth thing we can tell God too. 'Lord you purchased us on Calvary; the blood of Jesus has purchased me. I am God's inheritance'. You are God's inheritance, purchased by the blood of Jesus Christ on the cross.

Fifthly, he told God, what we already saw: 'Lord we are powerless, and we are weak' (verse 12). That is another thing we need to acknowledge. Sometimes we think that we are very strong, but we are actually weak. It is good for us to acknowledge it. Say, 'Lord, I am weak, I can't handle the situation, and it is too much for me.' Then sixthly, in the same verse 12, he said, 'Lord, not only I am weak, I don't have any wisdom as to what to do in this situation'. That is also good for us to acknowledge. Instead of thinking that we are clever and capable, say, 'Lord, I don't have any wisdom.' The Bible says in James 1, "Does anyone like wisdom among you, let him ask God. God will give him liberally" (Jas. 1:5). But you got to be humble and say, 'Lord, I don't know how to handle this situation.' Finally, the seventh (this is where you must finish), he said, 'But our eyes are on you; we are trusting in you.'

Let me go through those seven things. First of all, he praised God for His sovereignty (verse 6). Secondly, he reminded himself of what God had done in past days (verse 7). Third, he reminded God of His promise (verse 9). Fourth, he reminded God that we are your inheritance (verse 11) and then in verse 12, he reminded God of three things: first, we have no power to handle this, we have no wisdom, but we are relying on you; we are trusting in you completely.

第四，我们看到 11 节里，约沙法提醒神说，“这是你赐给我们为业之地。”我们与世上的其他人不同，因为我们是神的子民，因为你赎买了我们。这也是我们该在祷告中对神说的第四件事。“主啊，你在十字架上赎买了我，用主耶稣的宝血赎买了我。我现在是神你的子民。”你我都是上帝在十字架上用主耶稣的宝血买来的子民。

第五，他再一次告诉上帝前面说过的，“主，我们无力抵挡这来攻击我们的大军，……”（12 节）这是我们需要承认的。有时候我们以为自己很强，可实际我们都非常弱。承认自己的软弱是于我们有益的。告诉上帝，“主啊，我很软弱，我无力处理这境况，这太难了。”第六，同样在 12 节，他说到，“我们不但无力抵挡，也不知道该怎样行……”承认自己的愚钝而不是自以为聪明有能力，也是同样有益的，说“主啊，我没有智慧。”《圣经》雅各书 1 章说，“你们中间若有缺少智慧的，应当求那厚赐与众人、也不斥责人的神，主就必赐给他。”然而这需要你谦卑自己，说“主啊，我不知道怎么办。”最后，就是第七（你必须以此来结束祷告），他说，“我们的眼目单仰望你。我们相信你。”

下面我们把这祷告里的七件事重头看一遍。首先，赞美神的至高能力（6 节）；第二，他提醒自己神过往曾成就过什么（7 节）；第三，他提醒神祂给的应许（9 节）；第四，他提醒神，我们是祂的子民（11 节）；接下来在 12 节，他提醒神三件事，就是我们没有能力，没有智慧，我们完全仰赖于你。我们把全部的信任都放在你身上。

We read in the rest of that chapter (take time to read it) that the enemies were thoroughly defeated. They went out praising God. They didn't take any weapons; neither bows nor arrows. They just went out praising the Lord. Jehoshaphat believed God and he sent a choir of people praising God. We read in verse 22, "As they began singing and praising the Lord," exactly like we saw in Psalm 50:23, the Lord opened the door for them to be delivered and the enemies were defeated. Not only the enemies were defeated, we read later on in that chapter, but that Israel became rich with the wealth of their enemies. This is the secret. Whatever situation you are in, learn to praise God on the foundation of these seven things that I have mentioned and you will find God opens a door for you to be set free.

这章后面的经文（请花时间把这些内容读了）我们看到敌人被完全的击败了。他们都出来大声的赞美神。他们没有用武器，没用弓没用箭，就只是赞美神。约沙法相信神，他用自己人民对神的颂歌献给神。我们看到 22 节说，“众人方唱歌赞美的时候，耶和华就派伏兵击杀那来攻击犹太人的亚扪人、摩押人和西珥山人，他们就被打败了。”就如我们在诗篇 50 篇 23 节看到的，神解救那些相信祂的人，敌人就被打败了。而且不止是敌人被击败，后面我们还看到，以色列人因为得到他们敌人的财宝而富有。这是一个秘密。无论你处于什么境况，学习基于这七点来赞美神，你将发现上帝为你开门搭救你。