

Treasure Hunt

- What two events led David to write this Psalm?
- What two stories does he relate in the Psalm?
- Which story goes with which event?
- How else would you contrast the two stories?
- What makes God angry in the first story?
- What image describes God's help in this story?
- What are two requirements for God's deliverance?
- How does v. 32 integrate these two requirements?
- Explain some ways in which this Psalm predicts the Messiah.

Chiasm in Psalms 15-24

Qualifications to dwell with God	15	24 (+ the King)	
Confidence	16 thou wilt show me the path of life	23 The Lord is my Shepherd	
Laments	17	22	
Thanksgiving	18 request + answer	20 (request) + 21 (answer)	
God's revelation	19 (cf. Psalms 15 and 24)		

Psalm 18

1-3: Introduction: Praise Promised
(**Strength=Rock**, **Buckler**, **Salvation**, **Deliver**)

4-24: First Story: David is **Passive**, God is **Hero**
("from Saul")

- 4-6a, Stimulus: David cries for help
- 6b-19, Response: The Lord appears
- 20-24, Reason: David's righteousness

25-31: Climax: Righteousness & Trust

- 25-27: God = Thou (**Save**)
- 28-29: Mixed
- 30-31: God = He (**Buckler**, **Rock**)

32-45: Second Story: David is **Active**, God is

Helper
("from
enemies")

32-34: God = He

35-45: God = Thou

- 35-38: Thou → I (**Shield**, **Salvation**)
- 39-42: Thou → I
- 43-45: Thou → I (**Deliver**)

46-50: Conclusion: Praise Delivered

- 46-48a: God = He, David = I
(**Rock**, **Salvation**, **Deliver**)
- 48b-49: God = Thou, David = I
- 50: God = He, David = He

Structure of Psalm 18

Setting:

18:1 ... in the day *that* **the LORD delivered him from the hand of all his enemies**, and from the hand of Saul ...

2Sa 7:1 And it came to pass, when the king sat in his house, and **the LORD had given him rest round about from all his enemies**; ...

The Climax and the Two Stories

18:25-31 The Criteria of Righteousness & Faith

25-27, The Need for **Righteousness**
God = Thou (**Save**)

25-26, Righteousness toward God
Merciful, upright, pure vs. froward

27, Righteousness toward men
Afflicted vs. proud

28-29, Mixed Pronouns

28, God enlightens darkness

29, God enables action

30-31, The Need for **Trust**
God = He (**Buckler, Rock**)

4-24, First Story

- David passive & afflicted
- The Lord as **hero**

32-45, Second Story

- David active & reigning
- The Lord as **helper**

God and David in the Second Narrative

God
strengthens
David

David is
diligent in
the battle

God delivers
David's
enemies to him

David
vanquishes
his enemies

God makes
David head of
the heathen

The heathen
submit to
David's rule

35 **Thou hast also given me** the **shield** מָגֵן of thy **salvation**:
and **thy right hand hath holden me up,**
and **thy gentleness hath made me great.**
36 **Thou hast enlarged my steps under me,** that my feet did not slip.

37 **I have pursued** mine enemies, and overtaken them:
neither did I turn again till they were consumed.

38 **I have wounded** them that they were not able to rise:
they are fallen under my feet.

39 **For thou hast girded me** with strength unto the battle:
thou hast subdued under me those that rose up against me.

40 **Thou hast also given me** the necks of mine enemies;
that and **I might destroyed them** that hate me.

41 They cried, but *there was* none to save *them*:
even unto the LORD, but he answered them not.

42 **Then did I beat them small** as the dust before the wind:
I did cast them out as the dirt in the streets.

43 **Thou hast delivered me** from the strivings of the people;
and **thou hast made me** the head of the **heathen**:

a people whom I have not known shall serve me.

44 As soon as they hear of **me, they** shall obey **me**:
the **strangers** shall submit themselves unto **me**.

45 The **strangers** shall fade away, and be afraid out of their close
places.

Psalm 18 and the Messiah

- Link in v. 1 to 2 Samuel 7
- The speaker's claim of righteousness, 20-24
- Emphasis on victory over the Gentiles, leading to Paul's quotation of v. 49 in Romans:

Rom 15:8 Now I say that Jesus Christ was a minister of the circumcision for the truth of God, to confirm the promises *made* unto the fathers: 9 And that the Gentiles might glorify God for *his* mercy; as it is written, **For this cause I will confess to thee among the Gentiles, and sing unto thy name.**

- Final conclusion looking forward to David's seed