

2Samuel 22:29–37

“The Lord Is Our Sure, Exclusive, and Necessary Help”

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Why does David say he can leap over a wall or bend a bow of bronze? Pastor leads his family in today's "Hopewell @Home" passage. 2Samuel 22:29–37 prepares us for the Evening Sermon on the coming Lord's Day. In these nine verses of Holy Scripture, the Holy Spirit teaches us that the Lord Himself is a sure help, an exclusive help, and a necessary help.

Friday, September 24, 2021 ▫ Read 2Samuel 22:29–37

Questions from the Scripture text: What is Yahweh unto David (v29a)? What does He do to him (v29b)? What does David describe himself as being able to do, by Whom (v30a)? What else (v30b)? What does he call God here? What does he say about God's way (v31a)? What does he say about God's Word (v31b)? What does he call Him when talking about His proven Word? What is God to whom in v31c? What question does v32a ask? With what implied answer? And what question in v32b? With what implied answer? What two things is God to David in v33a? For what purpose does God imbue him with strength and power (v33b)? What else does God do for David (v34a)? Where does God set him (v34b)? For what does God train David's hands (v35a)? With what result (v35b)? What has God given him (v36a)? What has God been toward David, to make him great (v36b)? What has God done for David (v37a)? Why (v37b)?

In the previous section of the Psalm, we realized that because God has given us Christ Himself for our righteousness, God's own justness demands that we be helped. But what kind of help does God's justice demand for us? It demands that God Himself be that help! Therefore, our help is sure, exclusive, and necessary.

Our help is sure, regardless of the challenge, v29–31. Running against an entire troop. Leaping over a wall. The images in v30 seem hyperbolic to us. But that's because of how limited we are. The help of the one who has Christ for his righteousness is not limited, because that help is Yahweh Himself. Yahweh Himself is the Lamp (v29). Yahweh Himself is the Shield (v31). He is perfect; He is proven; He is Yahweh.

Our help is exclusive, giving us the kind of help that cannot be found and must not be looked for elsewhere, v32–35. The implied answer to the questions in v32 is “no one.” If you have to have God Himself as your strength and power (v33), there's no other place to look. What speed and agility program could you follow to become like a leaping deer (v34)? What strength program could you follow to bend bronze (v35)? These images are like the ones from v30. It is idolatrous folly to consider something other than the Lord Himself our help. Even all of the means that He gives us to use are only useful because He is the One who helps us by them.

Our help is necessary; we cannot function rightly without it. He strengthens us not to independence but unto dependence, v36–37. God's help is not a leg up for a while, after which we would be prepared to take things on by ourselves. God Himself must continue to be his shield (v36a). What makes the believer “great”? God's gentleness with him (v36b). The picture of dependence in v37 is subtle at first, but quite stark once you see it. Why aren't David's feet slipping? Not because God has given him super-agility-training; the image is of God manipulating providence to literally enlarge the ground right underneath him. We must be continually dependent upon Him, knowing that He is continually in complete control.

Blessed is that man whose help is the Lord!

What difficult situation are you facing right now? What is your duty in that situation? How can you be able to face and do your duty in such a situation? What “chance” is there that this situation will turn out for the best?

Sample prayer: Lord, by Your perfect righteousness in Christ, You have secured for us Yourself as our infinite help. We praise You for Your glorious mercy and power! Forgive us for when we worry as if we have no help, or when we foolishly trust in other things as our help, or when we arrogantly feel as if we are not in need of help. Yes forgive us, and since You Yourself are our help even against this sin of ours, cleanse us from all unrighteousness, which we ask through Christ, AMEN!

Suggested songs: ARP1 “How Blessed the Man” or TPH457 “Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness”

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(The following is a machine-generated transcription. Please be aware of—and patient with—transcribing errors. If there is something confusing or obviously erroneous, you are invited to listen to the audio recording referenced above)

Second Samuel, 22 versus 29 through 37. These are God's words for you are my lamp, y'all. Hey, you always shall enlighten my darkness for by you. I can run against the troop by my God. I can leap over a wall. As for God, his way is perfect. The word of Yahweh is proven.

He is a shield to all who trust in him for, who is God, except Yahweh. And who is a rock? Except our God. God is my strength and power and he makes my way perfect. He makes my feet like the feet of a deer and sets me on my high places.

He teaches my hands to make war, so that my arms can bend above bronze. You've also given me the shield of your salvation. Your gentleness has made me great. You enlarged, my path under me. So, my feet did not sleep so far the reading of God's inspired and inherent word.

Three things we see here about the Lord, being our help. If the Lord is your help, now if you are going through life and you find that you feel like you are always drowning and always without help, then you need to be honest, and come before God and say, you are not having him to be your help, the way that you should perhaps.

You have a little faith that it is a little faith and you need to be looking to him more while he's the one who gives faith and so you come to him with your little face and you ask him for more faith, but when the Lord is your help and one of the reasons that he gives us passages like this and psalms, not only that, we would pray to him with the faith that we have, but that we would see what a great help.

He is to faith under the desire, more faith. When the Lord is your help, then your help is sure. And see that in versus 29 to 31, you are my lamp, Y'all, a Yahweh Shan lighten, my darkness, and then when you read what people say about this, they say, this is hyperbole.

This is exaggeration for by you. I can run against a troop by my God. I can leap over a wall. Now, we actually have examples of places where David or the mighty men did go against the entire troops. We don't know necessarily that I can remember of any place and the first second Samuel narrative where David leaped over a wall and yet that which is so impossible for me and that it would be an exaggeration or have to be an exaggeration for him.

What is it for God? Does God find troops or walls, challenging? Of course. Not. And so includes as for God, his way is perfect. The word of y'all is proven, he is a shield to all who trust in him. So if you're help and if you're hope is not just what you does, not just what the Lord does, but who he is, he himself, is your hope he himself, is your help.

Your help is a person, then your help is sure because you will never come into anything in your whole life. Will you that God finds challenging or difficult? So our help is sure the, the Lord's. Help is sure the Lord's help was exclusive. Not only is he, the only God for who is God, except Yahweh, but he himself is the only help that will always work.

And who is a rock? Except our God, And who is a rock except our God? In other words, not only is Yahweh. The only God until me get her. Ready? In other words, not only is your way, the only God but there is no rock to stand on in your life.

Except God if we trust in our bank account or our hard work, or our diligence, or even our mom. And dad you might be trusting in things that God has given you, but if you trust and them apart from God, not only are you committing idolatry. But you're trust won't hold up because everything else can be taken from you except him.

The Lord is our not only shore help. He's our exclusive help for, who is God, except you always, and who is a rock except our God? God is my strength and power. And he makes my way. Perfect. And then more of these reminders and he makes my feet like the feet of deer and sets me on my high places.

He teaches my hands to make war so that my arms can bend a bow of broads. So the Lord is a sure. Help. And the Lord is an exclusive help. There is no other help but him and finally, the Lord is a necessary help. You never outgrow him. In other words, versus 36 and 37.

You have also given me the shield of your salvation, your gentleness has made me great. So David is not becoming great in the sense that he has more and more capable of handling things on his own. Yeah, the Lord is growing him and training him but not growing him and training him to the place where he can be independent of God and handle things, no Christian growth growth, and strength, growth in faith as a Christian.

As a believer is not growth into independence. It's growth in dependence. How do we know that? Well, first of all, the greatness of David as God's gentleness towards him and you can see that in the next verse you enlarged, my path under me. So my feet did not slip.

If his feet not slipping came from how more and more sure footed. He was perhaps, that would be an illustration of of God's sustaining him. Even by his end skill and yet, it would be God's sustaining him. But the picture shows our deep pendants, even more, doesn't it? Because why didn't David slip?

What happened? God enlarged, his path under him, so you don't get better and better having providence change by God to suit you you need God to do that every time and he does do it. Every time he is always doing according to his perfect love and the design of his wisdom and his power to carry it out.

So don't let yourself have this idea as that as you grow in your Christian life, you will become strong enough to handle things on your own. That's not Christianity growth. In the Christian life is not growth into independence. It's growth into greater dependence upon the Lord. So it's wonderful to have the Lord.

Is your help. The Lord is ashore help. The Lord is an exclusive help. You're a joist to know that you are helped because it means that you have God, your joys that God is your help. Because he alone can be helpful and the Lord is a necessary help. We will always be dependent upon him, and that's not something to be sad about that.

Something to rejoice over because it means that you will always your quote. Unquote greatness will always be by knowing him to be gentle towards you and this is the greatest thing of all is to know in and his love. So let's pray O Lord, we pray that you would be our help and that we would know you to be ashore.

Help help us. We pray even not to look to anything else to be our help and especially not to feel like we are going to or we would like to get to a place where we can handle things on our own. Give us fellowship with you and everything so that we may know your gentleness towards us and Christ and his name we ask it.

Amen.