

2Samuel 22:29–37

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

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- 29 “For You are my lamp, O LORD;
The LORD shall enlighten my darkness.
- 30 For by You I can run against a troop;
By my God I can leap over a wall.
- 31 As for God, His way is perfect;
The word of the LORD is proven;
He is a shield to all who trust in Him.
- 32 “For who is God, except the LORD?
And who is a rock, except our God?
- 33 God is my strength and power,
And He makes my way perfect.
- 34 He makes my feet like the feet of deer,
And sets me on my high places.
- 35 He teaches my hands to make war,
So that my arms can bend a bow of bronze.
- 36 “You have also given me the shield of Your
salvation;
Your gentleness has made me great.
- 37 You enlarged my path under me;
So my feet did not slip.

Main Idea: Since the Lord gives us nothing that we can handle and nothing that He can’t handle, the Lord is our help regardless of the circumstance, the only help that we can ever have, and such a necessary help that growth in faith is not growth in independence but growth into more complete dependence.

(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, chapter 22 verses 29 through 37. These are God's words for you are my lamp. Oh, y'all way, y'all way shall enlighten? My darkness for by you? I can run against a 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, four, who is God. Except y'all way and who was a rock? Except our God, God as 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 he teaches my hands to make war so that my arms can bend a bow of bronze. You have 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 slip so far the reading of God's inspired and inherent word. And this section of the psalm, which we find almost word for word and psalm 18. David is expressing how God himself is his help? And this means three different things in our passage first.

It means that God is a sure help. Second, it means that God is an exclusive help and in the third place, it means that God is our necessary help. First? God is ashore help. You are my lamp. Oh, Yahweh. You always shall enlighten. My darkness. Now y'all if you were British, you would refer to your flashlights as torches.

And some of you who are tactical refer to your flashlights as torches anyway because people, in tactical circles do that. But people actually used to have torches and if the torch went out, it was a problem. Perhaps you have been like one of those virgins from the parable who didn't have enough oil but you didn't keep your batteries fresh and right when you needed it, most you found yourself in utter darkness because there were no no batteries in your flashlight.

Well, if the Lord is your light that light never goes out, just as nothing can separate you from the love of God. That is in Christ Jesus. And as we thought about earlier, in this song, nothing can separate you from the ear of God, that is in Christ. Jesus, so also, if God is your life, not only that, which, which gives you hope, but that, which gives you guidance that which signs upon your way.

So that you understand what is in front of you and where you must step in order to navigate it properly. If the Lord is your light, then you have a light that cannot be taken from you, and he is ashore help. You are my lamp. You always so enlightened my darkness for by you, I can run against a true.

Something that some of David's mighty men is as we're about to hear and the next chapter actually did run against hundreds of men at once or fight against hundreds of men at once by by God by my God I can lead over a wall and perhaps if you are of a certain age or maybe they still say it about that fictional

character, Superman able to leap over a wall or leap over a building in a single bound and then you might think and agree with commentators on the psalms you say, oh this is hyperbole which could homeschool students that have gotten that far.

No means exaggeration, but David really isn't exaggerating here troops are huge obstacles to us and walls, are huge obstacles to us. But as a troop challenging unto God, did not his people. Once hold a prayer meeting with 185,000 to Syrians on the doorstep and wake up to find, they were all dead God.

Doesn't find troops challenging and he doesn't find walls challenging that which is exaggeration with man does not exaggeration at all with God. He is a swore help when he is your life and he is your shield, then your health is enough in every situation you ever find yourself. Yeah.

Enough with the the social media and pre social media lie, that God will never give you anything that you can't handle everything. God gives you is something that you can't handle, but God will never give you something that he can handle. He is a sure. Help, he is a short help.

He's also an exclusive help. He doesn't allow you. It doesn't allow us except by sin to have any other kind of help. First of all there's no other God for who is God, except you always, it's a rhetorical question. But matter of fact, was nations all around them and many israelites who borrowed religion, from nations around them.

They had a lot of other gods that they liked today, but the answer to the question is, obviously not one. There's no other God here, Israel, Yahweh, your God. Yahweh is one and that's why it's so amazing. When we find out that there's not only God, the Father, but God the son and God, the spirit that it's Jehovah himself, the one who made all things and nothing was made that he didn't make that.

He's the one who has died for us who as we heard in the morning, sermon for our sins in his body on the tree. There's no other God, but Yahweh, but the next line goes on and says, who is a rock or what is a rock? Except there isn't any, he alone is the help, he alone is the safety, he alone is the ground upon which we can stand and the place where we may have refuge.

And again, here you have more of that exaggeration or hyperbole but not exaggeration. Because if God is your strength, and God is your power, then you have him. His way is perfect verse 31, as for God, his way is perfect, but if God is your strength and power verse 33, then your way is perfect because he is your way and he makes my way perfect.

He makes my feet like the feed of the deer, he sets me on my head on my high places. He teaches my hands to make war so that my arms can bend a bow of bronze. God is the only one who will do. The only only is he, the only God but he is the only help for for us who are both sinful and needing forgiveness.

But also weak, and we depend upon him alone, which means as you grow in your Christianity, you will not grow in needing God. Less man. This is a lie that some of us believe we would probably not say it out loud because we've been better instructed, but we get tired and our fleshliness of dependence and feeling helpless.

But the Christian is, he grows is not someone who feels like he needs less help. It's someone who enjoys his entire dependence upon God. Sees, not just an exclusive help. He is a necessary. Help, We grow in our dependence and into depending upon him. You see that in verse, 36 and 37, you have also given me the shield of your salvation.

Your gentleness has made me great. What a wonderful statement that a man who is great is not one who has in himself, more and more strength, but as one who realizes more and more that God is a accommodating us, God is tipping down to us. It's his being gentle with us, in which we find strength in our lives.

And the last image there in verse 37 is actually meant to underline. It, you enlarged, my path under me. So my feet did not slip. So if we had missed the point of running against troops and leaping over walls and bending those of bronze, we would have to get the point here.

Perhaps if, if by God's help you'd run against a true for left and leaped over walls and bent bows of bronze, we might make the mistake of saying, oh, right us a manual for that, you know, and here's the step one, two, and three in the figures of how you run against the troop and the position that you take or how you, leave overall wall, and how to crouch and from where to leave and what to aim at or how to bend a bow of bronze.

Now we're kind of getting you know, first grow your muscles thousand times. You're a hundred times greater than any man who can grow. It is ridiculous, right? But what manual do you get for having your path in large under you, right? Isn't that how his feet does? Not do not slip and verse 37.

You enlarged, my path under me so that my feet did not slip. There's nothing here about about. You enabled me to have great balance, or you enabled me to have good footing or agility. This is pure external

providence. The way that David's feet did not slip. The picture here is that he was in this narrow place and he was in danger of slipping and God made it to grow under his feet.

Can't write a manual for that. Can you? So these other illustrations that show that God is ashore help and God is an exclusive help? Because nothing is too difficult for God and only God can be our help here we find, and God is our necessary help, because you'll never get better.

That having the ground grow under your feet? Yeah, you might think well, we get better at running or we get better at leaping or we get better at bending those, but you just don't get better at having the ground grow under you. God is our necessary help, we will be dependent upon him, always.

And we must not feel or think or reach with our hearts for this phase of the Christian life, in which we will have grown so much that we are no longer so dependent upon him. Such a thing doesn't exist, the Christian grows by maturing in faith in Christ. And as the Holy Spirit, mentors us, what we find is that we are just as dependent and more joyously and believingly.

So falling more entirely upon him. Then we previously had done, when in our weakness, we actually felt more dependent, it's actually Christian inventory, isn't it to feel like you don't need as much help Christian maturity realizes how entirely dependent we are upon him. So what a wonderful opportunity to praise your God as you grow in realizing that, he's a short help.

And that, he's an exclusive help. There's no other help, but in him and that he's a necessary. Help. We grow into dependence, not into in dependence. Let's pray. We thank you. Oh God, our help who from all eternity have designed this marvelous salvation and in which you are creator, would become a man so that you might die, so that you might bear our sin in your body on the tree so that you might purchase us by your blood.

So that in you, we might have that redemption which is the forgiveness of sins and we pray that you would grow us in knowing you so that we would not be anxious or afraid, but that we would be sure. And the face of anything, grant to us to know that you never give us anything that you can handle, but we pray that you would take away from us.

This tendency that we have to depend upon other things. Even good things you have given rather than to depend upon you by means of them and we pray that you would keep from us. This foolish and wicked idea that we will get to this point where we are not so needy of your help make us to rejoice in being fully dependent upon you since you have made yourself, ours, grant to us to enjoy being yours.

We ask through Christ. Amen.