

Series: Pathway Through the Psalms

# IN WHOM I TRUST

## PSALMS 144

Text: Psalms 144:2

### **Psalm 144:2**

*<sup>2</sup> My goodness, and my fortress; my high tower, and my deliverer; my shield, and he **in whom I trust**; who subdueth my people under me.*

Introduction:

This psalm is one of praise for deliverance from the persecutor. Written by David, it speaks of foreign nations as the oppressors/persecutors/evil workers.

### **Psalm 144:7**

*<sup>7</sup> Send thine hand from above; rid me, and deliver me out of great waters, from the hand of strange children;*

Notice:

Sermon Content:

# 1. THE PRAISE FOR DELIVERANCE (VS. 1-4, 9-10)

## ***Psalm 144:1-4***

*<sup>1</sup> Blessed be the LORD my strength, which teacheth my hands to war, and my fingers to fight: <sup>2</sup> My goodness, and my fortress; my high tower, and my deliverer; my shield, and he in whom I trust; who subdueth my people under me. <sup>3</sup> LORD, what is man, that thou takest knowledge of him! or the son of man, that thou makest account of him! <sup>4</sup> Man is like to vanity: his days are as a shadow that passeth away.*

## ***Psalm 144:9-10***

*<sup>9</sup> I will sing a new song unto thee, O God: upon a psaltery and an instrument of ten strings will I sing praises unto thee. <sup>10</sup> It is he that giveth salvation unto kings: who delivereth David his servant from the hurtful sword.*

This psalm begins in praise unlike many other psalms that begin with a pining over the psalmist's troubles.

We see:

A. The Majesty in Praise (vs. 1) – “Bless the Lord”

Men praise so many things that are not praise-worthy and, in fact, should be rebuked instead of praised. But God is always worthy of great praise.

We see not only the Majesty of Praise but also:

### B. The Might in Praise (vs. 1) – “My Strength”

The psalmist understood that it was the strength of God that made deliverance possible.

So often the way that we pray often reveals our small views of God.

We see not only of the Majesty and Might of Praise but also:

### C. The Meagerness in Praise (vs. 3-4)

#### ***Psalm 144:3-4***

*<sup>3</sup> LORD, what is man, that thou takest knowledge of him! or the son of man, that thou makest account of him! <sup>4</sup> Man is like to vanity: his days are as a shadow that passeth away.*

The mercy of God in helping man is emphasized by the lowliness of man compared to the greatness of God.

Note:

- The Smallness of Man's Worth

Man is nothing compared to God, yet God stoops to help lowly man.

The psalmist in humility does not pray for merit here but for the mercy of God to help one of His lowly creatures.

If we want God's help, we must keep a small image of ourself compared to Him.

- The Shortness of Man's Life

God is eternal – we are simply a vapour.

We have considered the Praise of Deliverance but not secondly:

## **2. THE PRAYER FOR DELIVERANCE (VS. 5-8, 11)**

The psalmist is harassed by persecutors which in this case seem to be foreigners. Whoever they are, the psalmist prays for deliverance from them.

Notice:

## A. The Power of Deliverance (vs. 5-7, 11)

The Psalmist prayed for God's Divine power and compared God's power to mountains and smoke and lightning.

We are reminded of the scene at Mount Sinai when God came down to give the law.

The psalmist desires to be rescued from the persecutor by destroying them.

### ***Psalm 144:6***

*<sup>6</sup> Cast forth lightning, and scatter them: shoot out thine arrows, and destroy them.*

That leads us to consider lastly:

## **3. THE PRODUCT OF DELIVERANCE (VS. 12-15)**

### ***Psalm 144:12-15***

*<sup>12</sup> That our sons may be as plants grown up in their youth; that our daughters may be as corner stones, polished after the similitude of a palace: <sup>13</sup> That our garners may be full, affording all manner of store: that our sheep may bring forth thousands and ten thousands in our streets: <sup>14</sup> That our oxen may be strong to labour; that there be no breaking in, nor*

*going out; that there be no complaining in our streets.*

<sup>15</sup> *Happy is that people, that is in such a case: yea, happy is that people, whose God is the LORD.*

The psalmist lists some desirable products that will come when he is delivered from evil.

- Evil (seen in the forms of persecution here) when defeated means that the children will prosper in character. If evil prevails, the children will often go to the dogs; if evil is defeated, the children will be noble. In our day, evil is on the throne in society, and the influence it has on the children is disastrous to character (vs. 12)
- Speaking in agricultural language, the psalmist says if evil is defeated then we will be prosperous. (vs. 13-14)
- If evil is defeated and destroyed, then the walls protecting the people will not have any breeches in them. When evil is defeated, the borders of our nation will be safe from criminal (such as drug traffic) intruders. (vs. 14)
- Happiness comes from holiness. When evil (the persecutor in our text) is defeated, then happiness will prevail. (vs. 15)

Close:

It's interesting – the praise was offered before the prayer was prayed.

We should pray understanding our smallness and God's greatness.

The product of God's deliverance is a great blessing.