

I. Review

Today we are going to finish up our study this morning on Psalms 18:1-2. We have spent a number of weeks here because I think this has been an extraordinary study for all of us. It gives us an easy understandable example of the building blocks of a sure solid, relationship with Christ. Certainly, in the day and age that we live in this is the time where moms and dads need to be dialed into the word of God to help your family, your kids and each other find where the truth of the Lord really is. We have seen as we have come through here the importance of continually adding to your faith. You see it all through the Bible. In 2 Peter 1:5-7 you will find that there are seven key things that as you grow God will add to your faith.

*5 And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge;
6 And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness;
7 And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.*

The Christian life is not about getting saved and then staying stagnant. It is about moving forward and as you move you continue to add things to your Christian life. I want you to see the difference between adding things in Psalms 18 verses 1-2 which we have been studying and adding things in 2 Peter 1:5-7. Both deal with seven things that you need to add to your faith as you grow. But you need to see this. In Psalms 18 you will find seven areas that you will add to your faith. **You have to do the work!** You have to get into the Bible and build these seven things in your life. But in 2 Peter 1 :5-7 you will find the seven things that God builds in your life as you build the seven areas of Psalms 18 in your life. In other words, you do your work with the word of God, putting things into your life. God takes those things, develops those things in your life and then God's Holy Spirit adds some things to your life. Spiritual growth is a two-way street. We get the idea that we get saved and wait around for three or four years, go to church, do all the Christian things you are supposed to do. Then one night after we spend four of five years going to church and doing all the things we are supposed to do, then one night as you sleep, God rolls back the roof and some great spiritual angel with understanding and wisdom dumps it all down on you while you are sleeping. Then you wake up the next morning and understand how it all works. No, it doesn't work that way. You have to do in your life the job of building yourself by doing certain things that you put in your life. Then as you do that, God takes that and develops those things and then He adds some things in your life. God will do His work in your Christian life just as you do those things in your life. This again is exactly what Isaiah 28:9-10 tells us to do. It is a familiar passage that says:

9 Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? [them that are] weaned from the milk, [and] drawn from the breasts.

*10 For precept **[must be]** upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, [and] there a little:*

I want you to notice three things here. The first thing he says is who do we teach knowledge? Then he says, to understand doctrine. Then he says, weaned from the milk. That is a baby Christian adding the things of the word of God into their life. Then God adding His things that He puts into your life. There is your spiritual growth. There will be no spiritual growth without that. I want you to notice verse 10. I have never really brought this up before. I was waiting until now. He says for precept **MUST** be upon precept. You can't do it any other way than putting the word of God into your life. Doctrine will always be built on a chain of Biblical evidence in the word of God. You find a lot of people get goofy ideas about God, the Bible, and the Christian life. You can discount those very quickly by seeing that there is no chain of evidence Biblically. There is no doctrine upon doctrine, precept upon precept. Nothing that builds that doctrine or whatever they are trying to teach. Line upon line, the building blocks of truth. Then you tie them all together. That is what we do here. We just take as it says, here a little, there a little.

❖ Everyday of Your Life Should Be a Day of Small Things Added to Your Faith

Thursday night at Bible Study somebody asked a question out of Zechariah 4:10. They wanted to know what the "small things" were. I showed them historically what that was, then I showed them doctrinally what that was. Then I brought it around and showed how for you and me that the day of small things is what Isaiah 28:9-10 is talking about. Here a little, there a little. Every day of your life should be a day of small things when it comes to your Bible. What do I mean by that? You start adding those small things to your faith. The things that you learn. The things that you see. The things that you hear. Your own Bible study as you get into the word of God. Sunday morning when you hear the preaching of the word of God. Thursday night when you hear the Bible Studies. Patterns Class, Discipleship 1, 2. Whatever you are going through, whatever you are learning, you grab a little here and little there. It builds towards the doctrine of truth and pretty soon you have an understanding of some things. God will take what you put into your life and put it together for you. It is just that simple!

❖ How to Keep What God Has Given You

Over the last 40-50 years of my life from time to time I have met people from my past. People who were in my ministry years ago. Some of you were with me for 30-40 years over time. You lose touch with people. People go to different places; different things happen. When I talk to them it is obvious to me that they no longer believe what they once believed. They no longer hold to the truth that maybe 30-40 years ago they were rock solid on. Something happened in their life that now they have lost those things and given up those things and are in a whole different world now. Then you will have others like yourself that have kept the faith of what you

got back in the day. You held onto those things you learned 30-40 years ago about the Bible and here you are today. Where one group of people out there that you will find have forsaken and lost what they once had, you kept it. Both groups got the same teaching. Both groups got the same Bible doctrine. Both groups got the same training. Some of you kept it and some of them lost it. **The question is, why?** This is the question I want to answer today as we put the finalization on Psalms 18:1-2. I am talking about good people. I had young men that came through my ministry 30-40 years ago that went out to start a church and forsook everything that they were taught about truth in the Bible. I got guys out there that I had a hand in their life years and years ago teaching them the principles of the word of God. Today they take the position that there is no Rapture. Some of them believe in amillennialism. Some of them believe in post-millennialism. Some of them have completely rejected the Bible as the word of God. Some of them are into Calvinism and into cults. Some are completely in apostasy and some out of the church and don't go to church anywhere. Why is that? How does that happen? More importantly, how do you protect yourself from that happening to you?

I have learned this over the course of many years. The scores and scores of young people that claim they are in the ministry, out of my ministry, several hundred of them over the years. I watched an amazing truth come to light. You can teach somebody the Bible like I do to you. You can give them everything that you have. You can get them the right Bible, the right doctrine. The right training, the right truth. But the bottom line is you will never know for sure what that person has or doesn't have until he is on his own. What he does with the word of God that you have given him. You see here, everybody is protected. Here you get it like somebody is handing it to you on a platter. But when you get out on your own you have got to start doing it for yourself. That is where you find how solid you really are. How the growth has really taken hold. I want to tell you in a real sense the concept of who you really are as a Christian is not where you are at today and what you believe today. Though I believe that is important. But the real proof of what you really are is not what you have today, but where you are going to be thirty years from now with it. That is the key.

❖ God Will Always Add to Your Faith & the Devil will Always Subtract from Your Faith

I have not in fifty years of preaching, teaching and laying out the Bible, changed one thing that I believed fifty years ago, doctrinally. You can still find tapes out there, on a website, or get them from different places, the things I was preaching 30-40 years ago. I preach the same exact thing today. Obviously, I have learned more and have added many things. I see things clearer now than I did as I myself have grown. God will reveal things in time through the word of God as time unfolds itself. But I have not changed one doctrinal thing that I believed. I know what the seven or eight Baptist principles are by which the true faith of the true church is built on. I have not changed on any of those. I still believe in the second coming of Christ, and premillennialism. I still believe the Rapture. I still believe the tribulation. I believe in all the things today that I taught and believed 40-50 years ago. The greatest truth of the Christian life that I found will

simply be, you have to keep growing on your own. The church can do a lot for you. God intended it to be the catalyst to get you into the word of God. God intended it to be the church, the protection for your family. For you, to give you Bible truth that you can hand it on down the line. But after you are saved my dear friend, you need to keep adding things to your faith. If you don't, in time the devil will subtract some things from your faith. This is a great principle. God will always add to our faith and the devil will always subtract from your faith.

❖ Look to Yourselves, that We Lose Not Those Things Which We Have Wrought

Today the final area that you add to your life will be what will keep you in the Truth and what will make sure you receive a full reward. 2 John 1:8 says look to yourselves not to God.

Look to yourselves, that we lose not those things which we have wrought, but that we receive a full reward. 2 John 1:8

We look to God for many things but there comes a time when you have to look to yourself, that we lose not those things which we have wrought. I am going to show you this morning from a very simple lesson today why some people get saved and go through 20, 30, 40 years of their life and at the end of that time they no longer believe. They have lost the things that they have wrought. I want to talk to you today about what it means to look to yourself that you may receive a full reward. Let's read for the final time today, Psalms 18:1-2.

II. Psalms 18:1-2 My High Tower

1. I will love thee, O LORD, my strength.

2. The LORD [is] my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, [and] my high tower.

Last week I gave you the end result of what happens when you build these seven things in your life. We looked at the story in Judges of Gideon's 300 and the warfare that every one of us will face. What a great illustration of that. We now know the progression of your growth in your Christian life has been clearly laid out in Psalms 18 as just walked our way through it. First off, you remember it said the Lord is my rock. We laid that out as the Rock being the day you got saved. The day you got saved you build a foundation in your life, 1 Corinthians 3:11. Then the second thing he says is a fortress. That is, you beginning to build the Bible on your foundation as you begin the growth process. You start with the foundation and then you build the fortress. The third thing we talked about once you build the fortress by learning the Bible, then you learn to trust in God and His strength not your own. We saw strength through the exercising with the word of God and getting the true God. Then I showed you the buckler. The piece of armor that is not found in Ephesians 6. But it is found here because it shows you as you put these things into your life you are going to get into a warfare that is close combat. That is what the buckler was used for. Then we built last week's message around the horn. Your message to a lost world.

We saw examples throughout the Bible itself, and Gideon's 300 was one of them. So, you now understand that Gideon and the army were greatly outnumbered. Just like you will be greatly outnumbered. The Midianites had a lot more than he had, 135,000 to 300. I showed you how God started out with 33,000 but then He cut it down to 300. Why? Because He wanted to show everyone (us too) that it is not in the numbers that we have our power. It is not in our strength or our abilities or in the way that you handle things. It is us being weak, knowing we are outnumbered. Knowing we are surrounded and then letting God's strength come through us. I showed you that not only are we God's minority, but they took a light, and they took a trumpet and an earthen vessel and put a light in that earthen vessel. They marched around that city and in the pitch black for seven times. Then they broke that pitcher and the light came forth. They blew the trumpet, and the Midianites were scared to death, and they had a great victory. Showing you that they had a trumpet in one hand and the word of God in the other. But you got to be a broken vessel before God's light will shine through you. The message they gave was sound the battle cry. Sound the attack. We sing about it on page 413 of our hymnal. But to most of God's people it is just a song. But it is more than a song, it is the message that we have the horn of our salvation. That we blow and let the world see and hear what God has done in our life.

Today I want to talk about the last area. This will be the last area of your Christian life, and this really answers the question. Why some people lose what God has given them and some do not. We are going to talk about the high tower today. That concept of understanding the high tower will make sure that you never lose what God has given you, like so many people have. The key to keeping all that God has given you will be the high tower you build in your life. Like the horn last week, this will be one of the greatest studies in the Bible and this pulls it all together. You have got everything you need to fight the battle, to understand the battle, to see the battle plan that you need to put together. Now, how do you keep that?

III. Three Aspects of Towers

When you come through your Bible you will find three things that make up the concept of a tower and what he will do for you. You find three references to it in the Bible and each one of them will show you a different aspect of putting the tower in your life.

- 1.) Psalms 18:2 High Tower
- 2.) Psalms 61:3 Strong Tower
- 3.) Song of Solomon 4:4 Tower of David.

So, we can get an understanding of how it works, let's talk about the aspect of a tower historically. In 2 Chronicles 36 the nation of Israel goes into captivity. That captivity lasts for seventy years and at the end of those seventy years Babylon has been defeated by Persia. Cyrus the King of Persia gives a decree that certain Jews can go back to Jerusalem and begin to rebuild their homeland of Jerusalem. So, in Ezra and Nehemiah they begin to rebuild the wall that was

destroyed in 606 BC when Nebuchadnezzar came down. That wall was a picture of the wall around the city that protected the city. That wall is built with blocks. It is a picture of Isaiah 28 of the wall around your life and your family that protects you from the outside by the building blocks of the word of God. We have already talked about that it will protect you. When they built the wall, they put nine gates in that wall where people could come in and go out.

You remember when we started this church over twenty years ago, that I wanted everybody to understand how I was going to build the church. How we were going to build it together. I started in Ezra and Nehemiah showing you that when they went back to rebuild the wall it is a picture of you building a church. The thing that you build around a church to protect the people is the same thing that you build around your family to protect your children. It is the building blocks of the word of God. That is why we have Thursday night Bible Study and Bible Institute. That is why we have all the different classes and Discipleship I and II. To begin to build on your foundation the building blocks of the word of God. Bible doctrine in your life to build your wall that will protect you. You have nine gates, and I told you those nine gates in the wall will be a picture of in our church how people come into church and go out of church. I talked about each one of these gates represents something that the church should give the people when they come in.

- Sheep Gate – That is where they brought the sheep in that were going to be sacrificed. The first thing a church ought to be is a church that teaches you about Christ's sacrifice on the cross of Calvary.
- Water Gate – Where the water came in and went out of the city. That is a picture in the Bible of the word of God. It is a picture that every church needs to have a Bible teaching, preaching ministry where God's people can get the water of the word of God.
- Valley Gate – I told you back then there will be people come into your church that have problems. They are going to have issues in their life, marriage and with their kids. They are going to be depressed and beaten down. They are going to need to be healed. They need somebody to understand that they are going through the valley right now. So, God put in a Valley Gate. So, we have a counseling Ministry. Eighty or ninety of you work with me, hand in hand working with people. People that have serious issues that we can help them get back through the word of God or where they need to be.
- Fountain Gate – This is a picture of our fellowship. Not only our fellowship with the word of God but our fellowship each other. We do a lot of fun things together because we are a family. This church is a family. It may be a church based on a New Testament structure found in the Bible, but it is a family. We take care of each other. We help each other, we fellowship with each other. That is why I talk about birthdays and special events in the announcements. We want to rejoice with people in our church that something great has happened. That is our fellowship. It is a fountain where we can just enjoy each other.
- Fish Gate – A picture that every church has got to be a soul-winning church. It ought to be reaching out and being fishers of men.

- Old Gate – A picture of us understanding the landmarks. Our history where we have come from. Why we believe what we believe.

There were nine of them and I taught you that these nine gates ought to be in every church that needs to reach people, so that people can come in and people can come out. Then as they rebuilt the wall back in Ezra and Nehemiah, they set the gates in. You see in Nehemiah 3 that around on this wall in certain areas they built towers. There are seven different towers that they put on this wall that is listed. There may be more, but he tells us about seven. Historically these towers on the wall are pictures of Israel's defense that on that wall the towers can be a defensive system against any enemy that would come. Inspirationally, for us once you begin to build the wall on the foundation and build the fortress and the wall around your life and family of Bible doctrine. The thing that will keep you from ever losing what God gave you will be the towers. I want to show you how these three towers are found in the Bible. I want to look at them and lay them out. The idea of a tower built on the wall of Bible doctrine which is a fortress. Built on the rock of your salvation for a sure foundation which will always be the reason you will never lose what God has given you, like so many other people have. That one hundred years from now if you live that long and the Lord doesn't come you will believe exactly then what you believe now; maybe even better. Remember what you believe today is good. Where you are at with the Bible, the word of God, is really good. But most of you are young. The real defining moment in your life is **not** now. That is short-term. The real defining moment will be 20-30 years from now, where will you be with what you have now. The Bible will stand the test of time. The question is will we?

1.) Tower of David – Song of Solomon 4:4

Turn over to Song of Solomon 4:4.

*Thy neck [is] like **the tower of David** builded for an armoury, whereon there hang a thousand bucklers, all shields of mighty men. Song of Solomon 4:4*

Wow! There are two things I want you to see out of this. It says, "*thy neck like the tower of David*". When we take this, and we compare this verse with Isaiah 3:16 we see that our neck will represent our will versus God's will in our lives.

*Moreover the LORD saith, Because the daughters of Zion **(Israel)** are haughty, and walk with **stretched forth necks** and wanton eyes, walking and mincing [as] they go, and making a tinkling with their feet: Isaiah 3:16*

I want you to notice a neck like the tower of David or a neck like a haughty and walk with stretched forth necks. Like the nation of Israel in his own pridefulness going his way and not going God's way. So right out of the shoot we see that the tower is not only liken to a literal tower but in an inspirational application it is a picture of man's will. Your neck, stiff neck or broken will. Last week I talked about Gideon's 300 and the broken vessel. That is man's will.

You break that vessel to have God's light shine through you. Notice it says the tower of David. The reason why he used this is to show the stiff neck or the will of God because in Psalms 51:17 David said that to really have a relationship with God you got to have a broken spirit and a contrite heart.

*The sacrifices of God [are] a **broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart**, O God, thou wilt not despise. Psalms 51:17*

That is what it is found in Song of Solomon 4, Christ speaking to the bride, you and me of His love that He has for us. As David through our love for Christ and His word, so much that we cherish the truth that it gives us. An example of this is found in 1 Samuel 3:19. There you see a perfect example of God taking a young man (just like some of you young men and ladies) and He begins that process in your life to reveal Himself to you. It is where many of you are at right now. It is where all of us were at one time in our lives. You will see how Samuel's mother takes him down and gives him to the priest. Then the priest begins to put him into the ministry of the Old Testament tabernacle and God slowly begins to speak to him. How many times have I had some of you come to me and say, "Hey, Bob I need to talk to you. I believe God is speaking to me. I don't know what He is saying, I don't know what He wants, but I feel like there is something that He wants me to do." That is exactly where Samuel was, and this is the model that I use when God does that in somebody's life. Because it is the pattern of how God will begin to call you. The greatest thing out of this story (there are a lot of great things in this story) isn't the fact that he got down to the tabernacle and God revealed himself and Samuel began to grow and find favor with God. The greatest thing about this whole story will be the key to whether you keep it or you lose it. Because in 1 Samuel 3:19 when God started to speak to Samuel he says this, Samuel let none of his words fall to the ground.

*And Samuel grew, and the LORD was with him, and **did let none of his words fall to the ground.** 1 Samuel 3:19*

There is the key! Everything in our Christian life rises and falls, stays or goes based on right here. Our love for Him and His word. Our coming to the place where we let none of His words fall to the ground. The day of little things. One little thing that God could show you and give you out of the word of God, which may not mean anything to me or anybody else, could be the greatest thing that God ever gave you for your own personal life. You remember when we started this in Psalms 18:1 We started with "*I will love thee O Lord, my strength.*" That is where it all starts. I think this is the ultimate key to why some keep it and why some lose it. Simply loving Truth above all else and let none of His words fall to the ground. I think that is the reason why some keep it, some lose it. But I also think it is the reason why some of them never get it in the first place. When you love Him and His word, the way we should, everything He gives you, every little piece you gather here a little, there a little, becomes a treasure. A treasure of His Truth and you will guard it in your heart all of your life. No one will ever take it from you.

➤ For Where Your Treasure is, There Will Your Heart Be Also

In the Old Testament the kings whether they were Solomon, David, the kings of Israel or Judah, or just the unsaved Gentile kings. They all had treasure rooms within their palace that were filled to the top with gold, silver, precious stones. Treasures from all the battles that they had won when they went in and plundered the cities and took everything that was valuable. The king took the best of the best and put it in a room that was filled to the top with treasures. He would go in there from time to time and look at the gold sparkling and everything that was filled to the ceiling and he just basked in all the wealth that he had. All the treasures that were there because of his labor and his warfare. That treasure room was guarded 24/7 and no one could ever steal it. You find in 2 Chronicles 36:18 that Israel had within the house of God all the vessels that were vessels of honor that were in the treasure room of Israel. All the gold and all of the things from all the battles that God had given them the victory. They put it into that treasure room. It was the legacy of the nation of Israel. You could walk down there and look at that room filled with that treasure, and you can say that is because God delivered their hand in every one of those battles. This is proof of God taking care of the nation of Israel.

But in 2 Chronicles 36:18 because Israel didn't do what was right with God and forsook God, Israel got to the place where she didn't care anything about God or the things of God anymore. When she went into the captivity of Babylon (the world), 2 Chronicles 36:18 says they took all the vessels that belonged to God that God had given Israel, now went to the world.

*And all the vessels of the house of God, great and small, and the treasures of the house of the LORD, and the treasures of the king, and of his princes; all [these] he brought to Babylon.
2 Chronicles 36:18*

There is the problem! Every child of God should have his own personal treasure room. A place where after he surrenders his or her will to the will of God, he too has in his heart everything that God gave him. Here is the real problem. Our failure will be to allow the devil to steal our treasure like Babylon took it when Israel went into captivity. God's people go into the captivity of the world and the devil steals the treasures that God put in your heart. God gave us the golden nuggets of truth, his word that we all treasure and keep hidden in the treasure room of our heart. The Bible says in Matthew 6:20-21 "*But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: 21. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.*" The treasure room of your heart.

In Revelation 3:18 we see the Laodicean church period which is the church period that we all live in today. The last one before the Lord comes back. The most despicable Christianity in church of all the periods of church history. God says, you think you are rich; you think you are powerful. You think you have everything and need of nothing. Not knowing that you are poor wretched, miserable, blind and naked. Then he says I counsel thee to buy gold tried in the fire.

Somebody stole their riches. You want to know why? Maybe and I hope not, but 20-30 years from now you won't believe what you believe anymore, just like some of the other folks that I have met, that I love and have taught the Bible.

*17 Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:
18 I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and [that] the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see. Revelation 3:17-18*

It is simply because you let the devil take the treasures that God gave you. You didn't guard them! I love this. You can't make this up. The true riches found in the Bible. Where is that at, Bob? The true riches are found in the book of Luke. The true riches that we all need. Where are those true riches in Luke? Luke 16:11

If therefore ye have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true [riches]? Luke 16:11

When I was your age like most of you, I got my life right and God put a man in my life that taught me the Bible. A man that I knew that God had put him into my life to get me out of the darkness and into the light. In my life he taught me the Bible and I held on to every word that he said. This is why it means so much to me. I was like Samuel in 1 Samuel 3. I let none of his words fall to the ground. They were gold from heaven. They were my manna, my water out of the Rock in the wilderness of sin. I have them still in my vault, my treasure chamber. Locked away in my high tower. So, after fifty plus years, line upon line, precept upon precept, here a little, there a little, my room is filled to the top. I can't speak for you, but I am the richest man on earth. I put Bill Gates to shame. Elon Musk is a pauper compared to me. You say he has more money. Yeah, but I got the true riches, and it should be in our treasure room. Where we can walk in and in our hearts think about the things that God gave us. The things that He did for us. The things that He changed about us. The times He came through for us. But it needs to be guarded 24/7.

2.) Strong Tower Psalms 61:3

The second one will be a strong tower in Psalms 61:3.

*1 Hear my cry, O God; attend unto my prayer.
2 From the end of the earth will I cry unto thee, when my heart is overwhelmed: **lead me to the rock [that] is higher than I.**
3 For thou hast been a shelter for me, [and] **a strong tower** from the enemy. Psalms 61:1-3]*

With this tower you will see how God will protect you. The other tower showed you how you made a treasure in your heart of all the things that God gave you based on your love for him in

the word of God. That is the tower of David. Your will being yielded to God's will. Now we see one, how God will protect you. Notice verse 2 "*the rock that is higher than I*". That is Christ. This is the tower that has been built strong and can withstand any attack by your enemy. There will be times when your heart will be overwhelmed. There will be times when it is just like the Bible says in the story about two men that built a house, one on sand and the other on a rock. The one that built it on the sand when the storms and wind and rain came, it destroyed it. But I want you to notice that the guy that built it on the Rock, the same storm, the same rain and the same wind attacked his house, but it stood and the other fell. Don't ever think for a moment that because you are going to do what is right with the word of God that you are not going to go through some tough times. Don't you think even for a moment that there are not going to be some storms in your life. Don't you think for a moment that the rain isn't going to beat down on your world and the thunder is going to crash and the lightning is going to flash and the clouds are going to roll in. The rain is going to come down like it is going to drown you. It will!

Somebody asked me onetime. "Bob, does that happen to you?" I said absolutely. He said, "How in the world when the rain falls and the thunder crashes and the rain comes down like Noah's flood. How do you survive?" I said it is simple. I've learned to dance in the rain. I mean Gene Kelly used to say, "Singin' in the Rain". I'm sorry most of you don't even know who Gene Kelly is. I guess I just dated myself!

A strong tower will be your shelter. Gideon was 300 against 135,000! There will be some storms in your life, but when you build a strong tower on the wall which is Bible doctrine on a foundation which is the Rock, that strong tower will be your shelter. Your refuge. A tower built on your love for God and His word grounded to the principles that He has given you. You trust in His strength and not your own. Psalms 18:2.

I want you to see there is a progression here because the strong tower cannot be built on your wall until the tower of David is built first. There is a progression to these. The tower of David in your life on the wall that surrounds your life with the wall of Bible doctrine. You put up the tower of David first and then you build a strong tower.

3.) High Tower Psalms 18:2

Our third tower will be found in our text today. Psalms 18:2 and this will be our high tower. Psalms 61:2 says Christ is the Rock that is higher than I, so you want to build your tower high.

Let's go back to the beginning. You lay a foundation, you build a fortress, you build a wall and then on that wall you build the towers. The first tower you build in Song of Solomon 4 is your love for Christ and understanding all that is. The second tower you build will be the strong tower that will repel everything that comes out. The third tower once you get those two done will be your high tower, as you grow adding things to your faith. You add your stuff God adds His stuff and in time this tower will be about getting God's perspective, insight and

understanding on everything in life. I call it “deer stand” Christianity. If you ever did any deer hunting the best way to get a deer is to get in a deer stand. You can be on the ground and walk through the woods trying to find a deer. You can sit and wait in the bushes for one to come by. That is probably not going to happen. But if you get up into a deer stand you are not looking just one dimensional anymore. Now you are looking three dimensional. You can see farther underneath things, and everything becomes clearer and gives you a better perception. But if you are on the ground, you can’t see them coming because of the bushes. If you are in a deer stand you can see them coming 100, 200 yards away and see if they are moving towards you or if they are moving away. This is what the Bible says in Ephesians 2:6 about the high tower and you and me. You know what it says? The best thing about you and me once we get saved and start to build these towers and you want to get God’s perspective how do you do that? Because God now seats you in heavenly places. You are higher than everybody else. Not only do you see things from God’s perspective, but the people who are out to get you can’t get to you because you are out of reach.

And hath raised [us] up together, and made [us] sit together in heavenly [places] in Christ Jesus: Ephesians 2:6

This concept is found over in the book of Daniel 1, where you find the Hebrew children are taken down captive into Babylon. Nebuchadnezzar wants to change everything about them. God had added to these young Israelites faith, all kinds of stuff from the word of God. Now when Nebuchadnezzar gets his hands on these guys you know what he wants to do? He wants to subtract those things that God gave them out of their lives and replace them with the food, drink, music and everything from Babylon. Daniel has some insight. Daniel has a high tower in his life. There is no question about it and Daniel has perspective. He says I’ll tell you what, you let all your magicians, all your illusionists, and phony people over here eat that slop that you want them to eat. Then you let us eat the manna from heaven that God gave us. That we as Israelites want to eat and at the end of ten days put us together and find out who really knows what he is talking about. So they fed all of Nebuchadnezzar’s crowd, all the junk from Babylon. Daniel and the boys ate what God wanted them to have and at the end of ten days when he put them together. What does the Bible say in Daniel 1? Daniel and the boys were ten times better than the best that Babylon had. You know why? High tower. God’s understanding. God’s perception. Your ability to see things that other people cannot see.

Abraham was God’s friend. He is a perfect picture of what we ought to be, and he says in Romans 4:17 that he was able to call those things that be not as though they were.

*(As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, [even] God, who quickeneth the dead, and **calleth those things which be not as though they were.** Romans 4:17*

Moses, the other man that was called God's friend in Hebrews 11:27 had an ability to see him who is invisible.

By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible. Hebrews 11:27

That high tower gives you the ability to see things that only God sees. Those things that he allows you to see that the rest of Christianity or the world cannot see. It will put you out of reach of all your enemies because you are smarter than the problem.

There are three dimensions in the physical life. All of us have the ability to experience the three dimensions. But there is a fourth dimension which is the spiritual dimension that most people never get to see from. That is how God sees things. The next thing the high tower does for you is it allows you to see what is coming your way before you have to deal with it. It will give you perception. It will give you discernment and the ability to learn.

On the first Saturday of the month, we have what we call our Patterns Class. We had a great class yesterday and the Patterns Class does one thing for you and that is my goal to get you guys to that point that are at the upper level to see things in your own life and in people's lives that you are dealing with before it actually hits. If you are ever going to be good at dealing with people you have to learn the patterns that people will fall into. Every scenario you will have predictable patterns because human nature is predictable found in the word of God. Each case will be different with a different set of patterns. But helping people see the end result of their choices whether they are good or bad, is invaluable. You have to be able to sit down and talk to somebody and they say well I want to do this, or I want to do that. Then you go to the word of God, and you show them if you do this short term, it looks good, long-term it is a disaster. Now they may have to make the choice yes or no, but your job is to be able to show them what is coming their way. Because they can't see it. The patterns of human nature will show you ahead of time what to expect so you can be in a better position to help them. That is what it is all about. You know where they are going and the opposition that is going to come. Because they don't see it. But because you are working with them and helping them, you can guide them around the obstacles until they get on their own feet. Where they can see it for themselves.

I will tell you the simplest easy example that will put it into perspective for you. I have heard this over and over through the years. Pastors will get up there and say if you trust Christ as your personal savior all your problems are going to be over. That is a half-truth. All your problems are over as far as eternity is concerned. But the minute you walk out that door now that you are a new creature in Christ Jesus, you are going to get blindsided. You are going to have people that are your friends, make fun of you. They will think you are a nut, or that you are crazy, and they are going to be up against you. They are going to cuss you out and be absolutely irate with you. You see when somebody comes to that point where they get saved and we start to work with them, that is where you can see long term farther, higher than they can and you can explain it to

them. You can say, “Hey you know what? Your problems as far as eternity in heaven or hell are now finished. You are going to heaven, but you are going to have some problems in life. Let me explain to you what is going to happen. Let me show you that I will be here to help you.”

How many times has somebody gotten saved and then an old boyfriend or girlfriend shows back up and runs competition with what you are trying to do with them in the Bible. How many times if you just get started with somebody and then they lose their job and they get another job someplace else in another state where there is no church there is no Bible and they are gone.

These are the things that they don't understand, that if you were in a high tower, you see coming their way and that is just the easiest one. Every bad choice they make you ought to be able to go to the word of God and show them the cause and the effect. That is what the principle class is all about. In our own lives, seeing the future by what it has been in the past. I say it all the time. We need to look behind, look around and look ahead. Because of your high tower you have the perception of God and understand the patterns of life, the patterns of everything out there that God does. So, you understand where the world is headed. You understand where America is headed. You don't get caught up in all this golden age stuff. You understand Daniel 2 and Daniel 7 how it fits into America. You understand Matthew 24:37 as it was in the days of Noah. You understand Luke 17:28 as it was in the days of Lot. You understand the times and the seasons that we are not to be ignorant of. History and the future will fall into patterns just like the people you work with.

When you start with your foundation, then you build that wall and then you build that first tower where you love him and everything about it and the treasures in your heart. You build the strong tower so that nothing is going to steal that from you. Then you build a high tower that you can see out. That is when you become invaluable to the Lord because now you don't see things like Bob Alexander or yourself. Now you see things from God's standpoint. You have left this earth and are not looking at things naturally anymore. You are looking at things supernaturally. You are seeing things, calling those things that are not as though they were. Our high tower will allow us from an elevated position to see everything around us, there will be no surprises in life.

IV. Summary

Based on these three towers as we close out Psalms 18:1-2 you can see once you build these areas in your life how important it is that you keep adding to them. There should never be a time in your Christian life when you stop growing. I showed you Thursday night how in the book of Zechariah that the nation of Israel had stopped building the Temple for twelve years. They just quit building it. They actually had taken all the stuff that was supplies for it and started building their own houses with it. God's people do that a lot too. So, God sends them Zechariah and God says, look guys, you need to understand, you think you are just building a building. But to God you are building Israel's future. How many times I have seen it in God's people's lives. You are not just building your temple now though I understand you are, but you are building your future. You are building the future with your kids, their kids, your grandkids and great grandkids. Just

like Israel. Israel never looked long term. All they saw was short term. They thought we don't want to really build this Temple. Nobody's paying attention to us anyhow. We are in captivity. What good is the Temple. The one that Solomon built, now that was the Temple. This one here is not even anywhere near like that. Zechariah says you don't understand, it isn't about the size of the building. It is about you must have a future with this Temple.

Every one of us has a future with God, only with the temple God's given you, your body.

"What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost [which is] in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price:" (1Corinthians 6:19-20)

Understanding the great principles. God adds to your faith; the devil will take away from your faith. Understanding a great principle filling up your treasure room to the top of your heart with little nuggets and every little thing. Let none of His words fall to the ground and as 2 John 1:8 tells us, "Look to yourselves, that we lose not those things which we have wrought, but that we receive a full reward."

Those three towers built on the wall of your Bible doctrine will keep you safe, keep you from anyone taking or stealing what God has given you. If you understand the concept and you apply them. As a nation, Israel had no future without the building of the Temple and as a Christian you have no future without the building of God's temple. Adding to it daily as you build it up to the very day the Lord comes back.