

**A Sermon of comfort  
by Dr. Paul C. Fedena  
after the Attack on America 9-11-01**



**THE TOWER  
THE TERRORISTS  
CANNOT TOUCH**

## **"THE TOWER THE TERRORISTS CANNOT TOUCH"**

### **Psalms 18:1-2**

To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David, the servant of the Lord, who spake unto the Lord the words of this song in the day that the Lord delivered him from the hand of all his enemies, and from the hand of Saul: And he said,

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

**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.**

**THESIS:** To reveal the Lord as our strength & protection in times of danger; and to present a message of comfort to those still reeling from the attack on America on September 11, 2001.

**INTRO.:** A. Our nation watched in horror as those seemingly strong high towers in NYC, the World Trade Center towers, crumbled after the terrorists attacks on Sept. 11. No one would have expected it, no one would have believed it. But it happened nevertheless. But it is not those towers I want to speak about today, but rather about **"THE TOWER THE TERRORISTS CANNOT TOUCH"** which David speaks of in the opening verses of this song or Psalm of victory.

B. David wrote this song after his victory over Goliath, his enemies and especially from King Saul. It was a Psalm written to praise the Lord for His deliver-ance. David knew where his strength & victory and power came from. He was ex-pressing his thanks to that One. This Psalm or song is found twice in Scripture: here and in 2 Sam. 22. Once in the *history book* & once in the *hymn book* of Israel.

C. It begins uniquely with David's expression of love for the Lord in v.1. The word for love here is not the usual one, but a word meaning "to yearn over" & carries the thought of fondling. Reverently David is saying "I want to hug you Lord." A surge of spiritual emotion overwhelmed David & like Mary after Jesus' resurrection, he wanted to reach out and simply hug the Lord! Nine times he uses the word "my" in these two verses; one of the first words a little child uses ("my toy" – "my daddy" – "my doggie" – "my" everything. The Lord wants us to come to Him as His little children & have a close personal & possessive relationship w/Him. David uses 9 terms here to describe what the Lord has been to him in all of his trials and it is the last of these we will focus upon: "...my high tower."

### **I. AN IMPREGNABLE TOWER:**

#### **A. An Unbreachable Fortress:**

1. The word impregnable means "unable to be stormed or taken by assault.
2. Our God is One Who cannot be successfully assaulted or attacked.

**ILLUS.:** The terrorists in NYC didn't use spitballs or peashooters against the towers in the Trade Center. They used thousands of gallons of jet fuel & large aircraft which literally tore into & through the buildings. The ensuing heat melted the steel supports & the weight of each succeeding floor above crashing down onto those below brought the entire structures down. There never has been a weapon designed which can even come close to successfully assaulting our High Tower! He is so "high" he is unreachable and He is such a strong Tower he is unbreachable. The towers in NYC may no longer stand, but our High Tower cannot fall!

### **II. AN INFINITE TOWER:**

#### **A. An Unassailable Structure:**

1. One day every man made tower will collapse, but thank God our High Tower cannot be successfully assailed, or crumble due to structural imperfections or the forces of this world or the nether world.

**ILLUS.:** In the lead article in this month's *Popular Mechanics* magazine, under the heading "Powerful Building Design" the author said "As buildings are made taller, they require extra bracing to stiffen them against wind loads...architects and wind energy experts met with engineers to review a new type of building...designed by a consortium of European designers, its aerodynamic shape diverts troublesome wind into integrated turbines..." But it doesn't come with any guarantees! But our High Tower does!

2. Our High Tower is also described by David as a "Fortress" a "Rock" and "buckler."

**ILLUS.:** The concept of a fortress in Scripture is a strong place of defense. The word "rock" suggests a lofty citadel to which men could run in time of trouble and hide in the protection of the projecting crags & find security in their deep and dark caverns or caves.

It is interesting that with all our technology & "smart bombs" etc., we cannot seem to seek out & kill one man who hides out in caves in the rocky mountains in Afghanistan. If those caves can protect Osama bin Ladin, think of the protection available for the believer when he or she flees to the Rock which is Christ. In the O.T. the Scripture declared that "their rock is not as our Rock," and in the N.T. Jesus said "...upon this Rock, I will build my church and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

The word "buckler" describes a shield to protect the vital organs of the soldier. Our High Tower provides a buckler or a shield to protect the vulnerable saint of God.

He is also described in this verse as "the horn of my salvation." The horn is to animals the means of their defense. Their strength lies in their horn(s). Thus the Lord is to the believer what the horn of the animal is to it. David only touched the hem of the garment in his description of our Infinite Tower!

### **III. AN INACCESSIBLE TOWER: "high"**

#### **A. An Unreachable Citadel:**

**ILLUS.:** High up in the highest mountain range on planet earth, the Himalayas, sits the leader of one of the most mysterious religions on earth, the Dalai Lama, spiritual head of Lamaism, a form of Buddhism in the remote regions of Tibet & Mongolia. As inaccessible as he and his headquarters or palace may be, the Chinese have been able to get to him. But our God is in a place higher than any on earth & beyond the reach of any man, but the blood washed saints of God! His Tower reaches to the 3<sup>rd</sup> heaven, beyond the atmospheric & stellar heavens, above the planets, galaxies & the universe itself. He dwells on high and after the attacks on America & the trade towers in NYC, He still stands as our High Tower, as secure on September 12<sup>th</sup> as He was on September 11<sup>th</sup>! He always has been and always will be!

1. David is speaking of the One Who protected Him & watched over him during a dark time in his life, from His vantage point on high.
2. David retreated to this High Tower often as he waged war against his enemies & fled from King Saul.
3. David found refuge in this High Tower where none of his enemies could go.

**Psalms 91:1-2**

**He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.**

### **IV. AN IMMUTABLE TOWER:**

#### **A. An Unchanging Refuge:**

1. David knew that no matter of the circumstances down here & in spite of His trials & testings, he could trust in the High Tower & that He would not only always be there, but would always be the same.
2. In spite of attacks on our nation, or on our person, we have an unchanging God, Who is totally unaffected by circumstances.

**ILLUS.:** Humanly speaking David was a mere man, but He was under the watch care and protection of Someone He could always trust in & Who could never change! David confessed his fears in v.3-6, but then listed how God gave him peace as he watched Him work. V.7ff

People asked me when we flew to California 2 weeks after the attacks, if my wife & I were afraid. My answer was an emphatic no, because I am never alone. My High Tower, my fortress, my strength, my buckler the horn of my salvation, my rock and my God is always on duty and cannot be successfully attacked and can never fall!!!! (His blessings are somewhat conditional. V.19-25)

**CONCL.:** The towers in NYC may have collapsed & our hearts go out to those whose lives were lost or were injured. Sadly in America we have seen God's grace, mercy & blessings in abundance, but many still place their trust in what man can do or has done instead of our **impregnable, infinite, immutable & inaccessible High Tower.**

I am thrilled at the renewed patriotism in America. Congress stood on the steps of the Capitol and sang "God Bless America," flags fly everywhere, posters and signs and lapel pins with patriotic messages are displayed boldly. Not only is the National Anthem sung at the opening of sports events, but patriotic songs are being sung during breaks in the games. Bill O'Reilly said that this is not a religious statement, but just a national slogan. He may be right. America needs to return to the High Tower if she wants God to bless America again.

We who are saved need not fear if we walk in paths of righteousness & trust in Him – our High Tower!