

# “GOD LIGHTS UP MY LIFE”

Psalm 18:20-29

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## INTRODUCTION

Last week we saw that “The Lord is My Rock.” He comes to the rescue of his child and **wonderfully delivers** him as though he were the only important person in the world. The whole world pales in significance to the worth of a child of God—he comes in a magnificent theophany to rescue His own in danger. *WHY* does God do this? We saw a hint of the reason in v. 19: “Because He delighted in me.”

Now this truth is made plainer: “The Lord has rewarded me according to my righteousness; according to the cleanness of my hands He has recompensed me.”

God is JUST: 1) He rewards Righteous Living; 2) He Gives to People as they Deserve; 3) He prospers His own.

## YOU MUST OBEY GOD AND WATCH HIM ABUNDANTLY REWARD YOUR FAITHFUL LIFE.

### I. GOD REWARDS A RIGHTEOUS LIFE (20-24).

David had a **holy purpose for living!** If these laws are “before him, he is reminded to observe them, and that is the opposite of “putting them away from him” Note David’s profession of innocence in I Sam. 26:23-24 and God’s testimony of the same in I K. 14:8: My servant David, who kept my commandments and who followed me with all his heart, to do only that which was right in my sight.” See also the clear testimony of the Biblical historian to the same effect (I K. 15:5—“except in the case of Uriah the Hittite”!). The law required such “perfection” (Dt. 18:13; and Abraham in Gen. 17:1).

#### A. A Righteous Life is based upon God’s revealed Word (22)

1. Keep His *ordinances* before you
2. Do not put away His *statutes* from yourself

#### B. A Righteous Life is based on having righteous standards (20, 24)

- “Righteousness” (conformity to God’s right laws and teachings)
- “Cleanness of hands” (guilt confessed and sin forsaken)

#### C. A Righteous Life Necessitates Righteous Lifestyle

1. Hands are clean—deeds not wicked
2. Divine “ways” are carefully guarded (21)
3. Personal integrity, wholeness, completeness is manifested (23)
4. Perversity is avoided (23b)

#### D. A Personal Relationship with God is maintained: “I have not wickedly departed from my God.” (21)

### II. GOD GIVES TO PEOPLE AS THEY DESERVE (25-26).

#### A. He blesses Godliness (25-26a).

1. Loyal love
2. Blamelessness—integrity, perfection

- 3. Purity
  - B. He makes life Twisted for the Crooked who do not keep His commands and ways (26b).
  - C. He reverses circumstances of people in order to bring justice (27)
    - 1. The humble afflicted are saved.
    - 2. The haughty in eyes are abased and brought low.
- III. GOD PROSPERS HIS OWN (28-29).
- A. He Lights up the lamp of our lives (28)
    - 1. He gives blessing and well-being and light
    - 2. He removes “darkness”
  - B. He liberates us to overcome adverse circumstances (29)
    - 1. I can crush (or run over) an army.
    - 2. I can leap over a wall.

#### CONCLUSION

God does not promise us a “bed of roses.” **But he does promise us a blessed life if we walk in obedience to His Word.**

**YOU MUST OBEY GOD AND WATCH HIM ABUNDANTLY REWARD YOUR FAITHFUL LIFE.**