Psalm (Quality: Good)

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Preacher: Dawson, Herbert (1890-1969)

[0:00] I ask the Lord to be pleased to help me. I shall call your attention to a subject you will find in Psalm 37 and the 39th verse.

But the salvation of the righteous is of the Lord. He is their strength in the time of trouble.

Psalm 37 and the 39th verse. This is a word which should lead to searching of heart among us.

Any of you who have the great mercy to be sinners born again will realise the searching nature of the word of God.

The dead know not anything about it. But the living sinners who are born again do know the word of God to be very searching and solemn.

[1:18] And there is a word in the subject which will set you thinking. And that is the character defined therein. The righteous.

You will have some thoughts about it. A wonderful mercy to be such a character. Righteous.

One who is made right. One who can rejoice that matters are right between his soul and God.

Say you. I wish I could be sure. I belong to the righteous. Oh how glad I should be.

To have sure evidence. I was such. A character. And now there is a word to help you. And to encourage you to hope.

[2:22] In God. Regarding how you feel. The word of God says. The desire of the righteous. Shall be granted.

And now the desire of the righteous. Is to be righteous. And to have. Indisputable evidence. That one is.

Such. A character. And that should. Encourage you. Poor sinner. When e'er to call the saviour mine. My soul with ardent wish aspires.

Can it be less than power divine. Which animates. The strong desire. There is another word. In the subject.

Which is one. Of unspeakable. Importance. To a sinner. Born again. And that word is. Salvation.

[3:20] Oh what a great word. That is. What a depth of meaning. There is in it. As a sinner born again.

Ponders it. In his heart. Saved in the Lord. With an everlasting. Salvation. I am sure that some of you.

Dear people. Are like Mary. A sinner. And she pondered. These things. In her heart. And although maybe. You cannot say much as yet.

About what you do know. Of the things of God. Oh you do. Ponder. These things. In your heart. And deep down.

You have got a concern. That. Ere you die. You might be helped to feel. Like Simeon. Of old. Lord now.

[4:20] Lettest thou. Thy people. Thy servant. Depart. In peace. For mine eyes. Have seen. Thy salvation. According.

To. Thy. Word. Oh if you are. As I said. A sinner. Born again. You will find.

In journeying through life. That it will be a matter. Of supreme importance. Yea. Of eternal moment. That you should be made manifest.

As the character. In the text. One who is. Righteous. One. Who has the great mercy. To possess a little religion.

That God. Is the author of. To enable you. To live right. And at the last. To die right. And your concern.

[5:16] Will be. This prayer. And this ambition. Mine. Living and dying. To be. Thine. But the salvation.

Of the righteous. Is of. The Lord. He is their strength. In the time. Of trouble. And now. I want.

As the Lord. Should help me. To look at this subject. From two or three. Viewpoints. The setting of the subject. Is very striking.

All the way through the psalm. The psalmist. Has drawn a line. Of demarcation. And on one side. Of that line.

Are the. Wicked. And the other side. Of the line. The righteous. Are found. And you. And I. Are on one side.

[6:14] Of the line. Or the other. Which of the two. Do you think it is. Let your consciences. Tell you. And the Lord bless you.

And help you. To a right conclusion. That you are indeed. On the right side. Of the line. Numbered. Numbered. With. The righteous.

All you have said. Many a time. Some of you. With them numbered. I would be now. And in eternity. Remember the emphasis.

In that petition. Is on the word. Now. Balaam said. Let me die. The death. Of the righteous. Let my last. End. Be like his.

But he had not. The shadow. Of a shade. Of concern. To live the life. Of the righteous. And now. If you are indeed. Such a character. The righteous.

[7:10] That will be. Your concern. To live right. As I said. And so. This line. Of demarcation. Is drawn.

Throughout the psalm. And. It is very evident. That when you come. To weigh up. The end. Of the wicked. How solemn.

It is. He that soweth. To the flesh. Shall of the flesh. Reek. Corruption. A very solemn.

Consideration. I often tell. My own dear people. Especially the young. People. That life. Is a question. Of sowing. And reaping. And it is.

Be not deceived. God is not mocked. Whatsoever a man soweth. That shall he also reap. He that soweth through the flesh.

[8:09] Shall of the flesh. Reek corruption. If he lives such a life. After the flesh. The things of the flesh. He will be numbered. With the wicked. Come out on the wrong side.

Of the line. Of demarcation. The cell is just drawn. He that soweth through the spirit. Shall of the spirit. Reap life. Everlasting.

Oh that character. Will be on the right side of the line. Of demarcation. It is a wonderful mercy. To have some evidence.

Well grounded. That one belongs to the righteous. The soul. That with sincere desires. Seeks after Jesus love.

That soul. The Holy Ghost inspires. With breathings from above. And there is one word. In the cell. Which I look at. In approaching the subject.

[9:08] A little that a righteous man hath. Is better than the riches. Of many wicked. Oh to have a little. Religion. That has got heaven's hallmark.

Upon it. A little. That. God is the author of. And remember. Unless God is the author.

Of your religion. It will never do. Either to live by. Or die by. A man can receive nothing. Except it. Be given him. From heaven. A wonderful mercy.

To possess. A little. That a righteous man. Hath. And now. Looking at the subject. First of all.

The salvation. Of the righteous. Is. Of. The Lord. The subject. Is very great. Our time is limited.

[10:07] And it can be approached. From. Various. Viewpoints. But. First of all. It is emphasized. In the text.

The salvation. Of the righteous. Is of the Lord. God. And there. The Trinity. Is referred to. The Father. The Son. The Holy Spirit.

Blessed. Trinity. Each person. In the Godhead. Has a concern. In the salvation. Of.

The righteous. The Father. The Father. What did the Father do. In connection with it. Speaking with great reverence. The Father did all he could do.

To bring it about. And make it. A reality. Christ. Be my first elect. He said.

[11:07] And then chose our souls. In Christ. Our head. What did the Father do. God so loved the world. That he gave his only begotten son.

That whosoever believeth in him. Should not perish. But have everlasting life. And ere time was born. Or the world was built.

There was a covenant made. A covenant of grace. Ordered. In all things. And sure. And all the righteous.

A number which no man can number. Were fixed. In that covenant of grace. All to do. With their.

Souls. Welfare. Was ordered. In that covenant. Of grace. And it was guaranteed. Do think. Do think on it.

[12:08] Prayerfully. The secret of the Lord. Is with them that fear him. And he will show them. His. Covenant. And then.

In that covenant of grace. Jesus Christ. Was ordained. To be the mediator. That he might. Appear.

On behalf of the righteous. Before God. And plead their cause. When they had to be. Redeemed.

From the consequences. Of the Adam fall. And so. First of all. There is. The father. Choose then.

Ordaining. To life eternal. As you read. As many. As were ordained. To life eternal. Believed.

[13:07] And that is what the father. Was pleased to do. In connection. With. This great. Matter. Of. Salvation. Of. The righteous.

I can only give you hints. And you know most of it already. And if you do. Very solemn it would be. If you get no good. For your soul. Having the doctrine.

Of it. Good creeds. May stock our heads about. And in our hearts. No grace be found. Do think on it. Dear friends. Oh that this might be.

A matter. A life and death matter. That you might have. A part and lot. In the salvation. Of God. You remember. It was said. To one character.

In the acts of the apostles. Time. There was no part. A lot. In this matter. Thy heart is not right. With God. A very solemn. Consideration.

[14:05] And now. It will be. An all important matter. To you. If you are a sinner. Born again. Say unto my soul. I am thy salvation.

Remember me. Oh Lord. With the favour. Thou bearest unto thy people. Oh visit me. With thy salvation. And so.

The father. Chose that vast host. To be saved. With an everlasting salvation. And then. Blessed be his name.

Made a wonderful provision. In sending down. Into this world. His own son. His only begotten son.

The word of God says. When the fullness of time was come. God sent forth his own son. Remember that wording. It is a great doctrine.

[15:02] Not to be looked askance at. But to be received and believed. Appreciated and loved. God sent forth his own son. Made of a woman.

Made under the law. God. And without controversy. Great is the mystery of godliness. God was manifest in the flesh. And it was all to do.

With the salvation of the Lord. In its plan. The son of man. Is come. To seek and to save. That which was lost.

Mark that word in. That. Which was lost. Lost. Meaning. The whole. Church of Christ. Lost in the Adam fall.

He saw me ruined in the fall. Yet loved me. Notwithstanding all. He saved me from my lost estate. His loving kindness.

[16:04] Oh how great. And working out this line of thought. But the salvation of the righteous. Is of the Lord. As to its plan. What an amazing plan.

It was. And still is. The foundation of it. Is this. God. In this salvation of the righteous.

In its plan. Does all the giving. And the sinner has to learn. To do all the receiving. In. And say. Thanks be unto God.

For his. Unspeakable. Gift. Remember that. And now the plan. Is wonderful to contemplate. God alone.

Could have. Conceived it. Ordained it. Set forth the pattern of it. That. His own son.

[17:03] He. Before whom. Angels. Veil their faces. And continually do cry. Holy. Holy. Holy. Lord God.

Almighty. And that same. Almighty God. Should sigh. Human breath. And the Lord of life. Experienced death.

How it was done. We can't discuss. But this. We hope. It was done for us. And now that. Is the plan. Of the salvation. Of the righteous.

A scene. Of matchless grace. Tis Jesus in. The sinner's place. And so. You may. By living faith. Go to Bethlehem.

And see the great thing. Which came to pass there. Jesus Christ. Verily God. Yet seen. On earth.

[18:00] Verily man. A little babe. A holy babe. The only babe. That ever was. Holy. And he came.

Into the world. Born a babe. By birth. Mysterious. And he was. Cradled in the manger. And sheltered a while. In a stable.

The Lord of life. The Lord of glory. Yes. And it was said. Unto you is born a saviour.

One who is come. To make sure. The salvation of the righteous. Unto you. Is born. In the city of David. A saviour. There. Which is Christ.

The Lord. And. He lived his life. On earth. And. As he was made. Of a woman. As I quoted. And it goes on.

[19:00] Made under the law. There. You get a further. Glimpse. Of salvation. In its plan. Jesus Christ.

As verily man. Was made. Under the law. That he might. Keep it. On behalf. Of the righteous. That they might. Realise.

Salvation. In every jot and tittle. Of it. In him. The father never saw. The least transgression. Of his law. In him.

We then. Perfection. View. And the saints. In him. Are perfect. In him. Perfect. Too. All his life. All his life. Was a wonderful life. He kept. He kept the law. In every jot and tittle.

And at the end of his life. Which he had lived. Under the law. He could declare. I have finished the work. Which thou gavest me. To do.

[19:57] Yes. Love's redeeming work. Was done. Fought the fight. The battle won. Son. And the father said. This is my beloved son. In whom.

I am. Well pleased. And then. The working out of salvation. In its plan. Not only did Jesus Christ.

Live under the law. As verily man. And keep that law. But what doth the law say. To a sinner. Born under it. The soul that sinneth.

It should die. And now. Here is that plan. Evidenced. In a most. Amazing. Way. As you read. In the.

Word of God. Where. It says. For. He hath made him. To be sin for us. Who knew no sin.

[20:51] That we might be made. The righteousness of God. In him. What does that mean? Christ died. For our sins. Christ died.

For thee. For thee. Ungodly. There is salvation. Being worked out. In accordance with the plan. Made.

In heaven. By the father. The son. The holy spirit. All we like sheep. Have gone astray. We have turned everyone.

To his own way. And the Lord. Hath laid upon him. The iniquity. Of us. All. And so. Jesus Christ.

Blessed be his name. Came into the world. To save sinners. And that work. He came into the world. To do. He did it. It is finished.

[21:48] Cried the Lord. In his dying minute. Holy Ghost. Repeat the word. Full salvation. In it. But the salvation. Of the righteous.

Is of the Lord. Is of the Lord. In its planning. Is of the Lord. In its purpose. Is of the Lord.

In the provision. Made to ensure it. Jesus Christ. Is a savior. And a. Great one. And there is that.

Guarantee. He shall see. Of the travail. Of his soul. And shall be. Satisfied. But then.

How are these things. To be known. How are the righteous. To be. Made manifest. Here. The Holy Spirit.

[22:46] Is revealed. As to what he has to do. Concerning. The salvation. Of. The righteous. The word of God. Has gone forth.

Ye must. Be born. Again. Margin. Born from above. God. And it is. The spirit itself. Beareth witness.

With our spirit. That we are the children of God. And the Holy Spirit. Is working. Night and day. Concerning.

The salvation. Of the righteous. As they are born. Into this world. When the time comes. For them to be born again. The Holy Spirit.

Begins the good work. In every sinner's breast. Ordained to life eternal. And where he begins it. He carries it on. He completes it.

[23:45] He which hath begun. The good work in you. Will perform it. Until the day. Of Jesus Christ. And so.

The salvation. Of the righteous. Is of the Lord. In all that appertains to it. Every jot and tittle of it. Not only its planning.

And its purpose. But its provision. And it will not fail. Remember that. I give unto my sheep.

Eternal life. And they shall never perish. Neither shall any man. Or devil either. Pluck them. Out of my hand.

Out of my hand. Such is. The salvation. Of the righteous. And just to confirm it. You have got a beautiful illustration. Of it.

[24:42] When you think of that vision. That Peter saw. When he was on. The housetop. When he saw. The sheep let down from heaven. Three times in succession.

And that sheep. Was full. Of all manner. Of birds. And beasts. Creeping things. Innumerable. Three times was it let down.

Three times taken up again. As it came down from heaven. So it was carried back thither. And now that is to teach us. Salvation.

Is of the Lord. Nothing can be added to it. Nothing shall be taken from it. As God. Purposed it should be.

And planned. In his eternal purposes. So it will not fail. To come to pass. And remember this. The word tells us here.

[25:41] But the salvation of the righteous. Is of the Lord. He is their strength. In. The time of trouble. And now I should judge.

There has never been hardly. Such a time of trouble. As the world is in. Nowadays. I know. Great wars have raged. In our time. But they did not affect.

Every nation. Because every nation. Was not engaged. In those great wars. Though they did suffer. Some of the. Consequences of it.

And are suffering. From the aftermath. Of it still. When you look around the world. Nowadays. So full of conflict. And commotion. Chaos and confusion.

North. South. South. East. And west. Men's hearts. Fair in them for fear. As they survey the things. Which are coming on the earth. It is a time of trouble.

[26:41] Such as never was. You read about that. In the. Book of. Daniel. And. There. Is a further. Confirmation.

Of this subject. Before us. And at that time. Shall Michael. Stand up. Michael. Here. Refers to Jesus Christ.

The great prince. Which standeth. For the children. Of thy people. And there shall be a time. Of trouble. Such as never was. Since there was a nation.

Even to that same time. And at that time. Thy people. Should be delivered. Every one. That shall be found. Written in. The book.

And there you get a picture. Of the future. Which is yet to be. Unfolded. In the details. Referred to. Thy people.

[27:39] Should be delivered. Every one. That shall be found. Written in the book. Hey. You will say. In thy fair book. Of life and grace. Oh may I find.

My name recorded. In some humble place. Beneath my lord. The lamb. And there. Whatever men may purpose. To do.

And the devil. Is working overtime. Doing all the mischief. He can. Because he knows. He has only got. A short time left. To work in. Remember that.

As you look. Round the world. As it is. Your heart. May misgive you. But oh. If you are. A sinner. Born again. You have no warrant.

To look round the world. As you see it. And think your own thoughts. About what you see. You are to remember. The lord reigneth. You are to look up.

[28:37] When you see these things. Come to pass. Then look up. And know. That your redemption. Draweth nigh. And know. That god will make plain.

The salvation. Of the righteous. Is of the lord. Yes. They that in the lord confide. And shelter in his wounded side.

Shall see. All dangers. All the past. Stand every storm. And live at last. And so. While the. Wicked.

As they look on the world. At times. May have their hearts. Filled with fear. There is a fear. Not for the righteous. As they look into the future. And think on what.

It may yet. Unfold. The salvation. Of the righteous. Is of the lord. In every state. Secure. Kept as jehovah's eye.

[29:35] Tis well with them. While life endure. And well. When called to die. Let us look at the subject. From another viewpoint. Here. But.

The salvation. Of the righteous. Is of. The lord. And now. The psalmist. Goes on. He is. Their strength.

In the time. Of trouble. Let us look at that. As god shall help us. Just a little. Mark the wording. It does not read. He makes them strong.

In a time. Of trouble. You may say. I should think. There is no difference. Only a distinction. In words. There is a difference. It is not a distinction.

In words. Remember that. He is their strength. In the time. Of trouble. And now.

[30:32] Think of that woman. In the gospel. That pressed through. The crowd. And said. If I may but touch. The hem of his garment.

I shall be made whole. Word it like this. If I. May but touch. The hem of his garment. I shall realize.

His strength. In my. Soul's. Need. My time. Of trouble. And what she was favored. To obtain. Was contact.

With him. Who is. The sinner's friend. And only. As you and I. Are favored. To wait on the Lord. And realize. What it is.

For the hand of faith. To touch. As it were. The hem of his garment. His righteousness. Says. Can you renew. Your strength. And find. He is.

[31:29] Their strength. In the time of trouble. As the text. Tells us. There is a wonderful word. In Isaiah. Where it says. Let him take hold.

Of my strength. And he shall make peace. With me. You must remember. Dear friends. God will never give you. Any surplus grace. Any strength.

To spare. You will never get. Tomorrow's strength. In reserve. Today. As thy days. So shall thy strength. Feed. And you and I.

Have got to learn. If we are sinners born again. Every moment. Be receiving strength. And yet. Be always weak. Thus you realize.

God is our refuge. And strength. The very present help. In trouble. He is their strength. In the time of trouble.

[32:26] What does it mean? He is their strength. In who he is. Whom though we cannot comprehend. Knowing thou art the sinner's friend.

We love thee. And adore. He is their strength. Not only in who he is. But in what he is.

And now. He is their strength. In as much. As he has righteousness. To impute. To every sinner born again. Whereby.

He is made righteous. Before God. Remember that. Good it is. If you have to say. Naked. I come to thee.

For dress. Helpless. Look to thee. For grace. For you will prove. This word. The salvation of the righteous. Is of the Lord. He is their strength.

[33:20] In the time. Of trouble. A wonderful mercy. His name is Jehovah Sidki. New. The Lord. Our righteousness.

And then. He is their strength. In as much. As that work. He came down. Into this world. To do. He came into this world.

To do it. And he did it. And he said. It is finished. Therein. Is strength. To poor sinners. Who want matters. To be made right.

Between. Their souls. And God. By grace. Are ye saved. Through faith. And that not of yourselves. It is the gift of God.

Not of works. Lest any man. Should boast. Oh what strength. There is. When you think. Of Calvary's cross. And what was done.

[34:14] Thereon. Do you think. On it. Do you sometimes. Spend a few sweet moments. Before it. Survey the wondrous cross.

On which the prince. Of glory died. And sometimes. Feel. Hear his strength. Oh the riches. Of his grace. He poured out. His precious blood.

For me. Oh that is a sweet. Experience. Jesus. Blood. Through earth and skies. Mercy. Eternal. Mercy.

Cries. And that fountain. Is still open. And that precious blood. Still avails. And that righteousness. Is still to be known.

Yes. The salvation of the righteous. Is of the Lord. He is their strength. In the time of trouble. And now what a strength.

[35:13] He is. Mark the word in. He is. In the word of his grace. You can read the word of his grace. And get no strength. You can read chapter after chapter.

And remain as weak as ever. Now. But when he whose word it is. Helps you. To read it. And you find.

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet. A light unto my path. Then he whose word it is. Is your strength. And remember.

The written. And the incarnate word. In all things. Are the same. Divine instructor. Gracious Lord.

O be forever near. Help me to read. Thy sacred word. And find my savior there. He is their strength. In the word of his grace.

[36:11] Think of the strength he is. In all his exceeding. Great and precious promises. All are yea and amen. In Christ Jesus. Every one.

Of these promises. In the gospel. Of the grace of God. Is empowered. With thus saith the Lord. And thus he is the strength. Of his people.

When trouble like a gloomy cloud. Gathers thick. And thunders loud. Poor sinners say. With the psalmist. Remember the word. Unto thy servant. On which thou hast caused me.

To hold. Another thought is this. Not only is there. The strength of the Lord. In the promises. But think of the precepts.

And now what strength there is. When you do not know. What is right to do. And you have got to do something. As you journey through life. And then.

[37:08] You look into the word of God. And realize. There is a precept. To meet. The very case. You are the subject of. And to throw light.

On the circumstances. In which you are living. The psalmist said. I esteem thy precepts. In all things. To be right. And then.

When you light on such a precept. You realize. The word of God. Is to you. A strength. And you desire divine aid. To live.

In accordance. With it. Yes. And I thought. As I pondered this word. The salvation. Of the righteousness. Is of the Lord.

He is their strength. In the time of trouble. And. When you can look back. Along life's way. And see what you humbly believe. The Lord. Has done for you. He is your strength.

[38:07] Regarding your past experience. As you look back. And see the way marks. And die heaps. You have set up. Which God has enabled you to do.

Along life's way. And to have that past experience. Enables you to say. And argue. Like Manoah. His wife.

Argued. With Manoah. I should say. If the Lord were pleased to kill us. Would he have shown us. All these things. And therein. Was strength.

Thy love in times past. Forbids me to think. Thou would leave me at last. In trouble. To sing. There is strength. In looking back.

Over what God. Has done for us. And say. What hath God wrought. And what he has done. He will never undo. What he has done.

[39:04] He will never leave unfinished. No. I have quoted already. He which hath begun. The good work in you. Will perform it.

The margin reading is. Finish it. And it cannot be. Otherwise. But I must come. To the Amen. But the salvation.

Of the righteous. Is of the Lord. He is their strength. In the time. Of trouble. Now it. Might be a time.

Of trouble. With some of you. As you are here. Before God. I have no time. To work out. What your trouble. May be. But whatever it is.

If you are a sinner. Born again. You have. A God. To go to. The Lord. Is good. A stronghold. In the day.

[39:59] Of trouble. And he knoweth. Them. That trust. In him. But do remember this. Whatever. Your time. Of trouble. May be.

It may be. Affliction. Is laid on you. Or it may be. You are in. Your latter days. At the far end. And in life. Even in time.

Or it may be. You are in. Trying. Circumstances. That are crooked things. To be made. Straight. Or it may be. You are in heaviness. Through many fold.

Temptations. And walking in darkness. And you have. No light. Or it may be. You are in a time. Of trouble. Because you are being made. More and more aware.

Of what a sinner. You really are. And now remember this. When this word. Tells us. But the salvation. Of the righteous.

[40:54] Is of the Lord. You must remember. That when Solomon's temple. Was built. There was not. The sound of any. Implement of iron. To be heard.

In the building of it. It was not to be used. And now. Whatever your time. Of trouble is. God is to have.

The glory. Every jot. And tittle. Of helping you in it. My soul. Wait thou. Only. Upon. God.

Mark that word. Only. In Psalm 62. It occurs again. And again. Only. My soul. Wait thou. Only.

Upon. God. Thy whole dependence. On me fix. Nor entertain a thought. Thy worthless schemes. With mine to mix.

[41:50] But venture to be naught. Yes. And so. You will learn. The salvation of the righteous. Is of.

The Lord. He is their strength. In the time. Of trouble. And that help he affords. Will never come to light. No.

It will come. In his time. And when he comes. Makes known his strength. Reveals to you. His salvation.

In your own part and lot. Therein. You will look on. And you will have to declare. He hath done. All things.

Well. Blessed is the man. O God. Whose mind is stayed on thee. Who waits for thy salvation. Lord. Shall thy salvation.

[42:45] See. Amen.