

## **My God Cares**

*Psalm 30:1-12*

### **I. My God deserves my praise; 30:1-3.**

<sup>1</sup> *A psalm. A song. For the dedication of the temple. Of David. I will exalt you, O LORD, for you lifted me out of the depths and did not let my enemies gloat over me.* <sup>2</sup> *O LORD my God, I called to you for help and you healed me.* <sup>3</sup> *O LORD, you brought me up from the grave; you spared me from going down into the pit.*

The psalmist cites the experience of deliverance as the reason he praises God. God has lifted him out of the depths. God did not let his enemies gloat. He called for help and God healed him. He was delivered from death's door.

We too have much to praise God for. He has lifted us out of the brokenness of sin and will vindicate us from all enemies. When we call out, He always hears. The LORD saved us from death - an eternal death.

### **II. My God deserves praise for an eternity awaiting; 30:4-5.**

<sup>4</sup> *Sing to the LORD, you saints of his; praise his holy name.* <sup>5</sup> *For his anger lasts only a moment, but his favor lasts a lifetime; weeping may remain for a night, but rejoicing comes in the morning.*

David now calls on the saints to join in the praise of God. God's final word is never suffering but deliverance for His faithful ones. The tears of suffering will ultimately resolve into morning shouts of joy. Tears are permitted to stay the night but will be on their way by morning.

As a saint, "holy one," you can praise God's holy name. Unlike those who are unsaved, God's anger against us doesn't last forever. There is an eternity of rejoicing awaiting those who respond to the gospel.

### **III. My God deserves praise in my vulnerability; 30:6-12.**

<sup>6</sup> *When I felt secure, I said, "I will never be shaken."* <sup>7</sup> *O LORD, when you favored me, you made my mountain stand firm; but when you hid your face, I was dismayed.* <sup>8</sup> *To you, O LORD, I called; to the Lord I cried for mercy:* <sup>9</sup> *"What*

*gain is there in my destruction, in my going down into the pit? Will the dust praise you? Will it proclaim your faithfulness? <sup>10</sup> Hear, O LORD, and be merciful to me; O LORD, be my help." <sup>11</sup> You turned my wailing into dancing; you removed my sackcloth and clothed me with joy, <sup>12</sup> that my heart may sing to you and not be silent. O LORD my God, I will give you thanks forever.*

He begins with a self-confident sense of safety and security. True confidence comes because of God's power and His will to save. However, there is a false sense of security, based on a rejection of God and a will to self-power, that is doomed to failure. The true key to security is God himself. When God favors the psalmist, all is secure, but when God hides His face, the psalmist collapses in dismay.

We need to move from smug confidence to utter dismay knowing God may withdraw His protective power to show us our vulnerability and call us into a renewed relationship of complete dependence on Him. For most of us, life is full of moments when our awareness of God's presence grows and fades. God is always present, whether we realize it or not. However, our feelings and our perceptions, either strengthen or undermine our confidence in facing the circumstances of our lives. Clearly our perceptions are not always the best judge of reality.

The ability to perceive God at work amid a troubled time makes all the difference in the world. To live a life of praise is to commit yourself fully into the care of the God who is praised. Praising God means an acknowledgement of who it is that has given new life. Thanks is more than being grateful. To thank is to make a commitment.

To live as a people of praise means that we are always willing to accept those reversals in the lives of sinners as gifts from God's hand. To live as a people of praise means that we live ready to welcome into our church, sinners such as David, and doubters such as Thomas.