

In my distress I called upon the Lord, and cried unto my God: he heard my voice out of his temple, and my cry came before him even into his ears.... He sent from above, he took me, he drew me out of many waters. He delivered me from my strong enemy.... He brought me forth also into a large place... (Psalm 18:6-19)

The reader is urged to read the entire passage in the Bible from which only the beginning and the end are quoted. This is a most encouraging report of God's mighty response to the distress cry of one of His children. The psalmist uses vivid metaphors.

"The earth shook." God will move heaven and earth to rescue His beloved children. He is angry with their oppressors. His wrath is thus portrayed. "There went up a smoke out of His nostrils, and fire out of His mouth devoured: coals were kindled by it.

The powers of heavenly bodies and of angels and other celestial creatures are employed as God fights for the cause of His beloved. Even the evil powers of darkness are made to serve Him to this end. "He bowed the heavens also and came down: and darkness was under His feet."

He is not slow or slovenly in answering prayer. We may think there is delay, but when the time is right God is swift, unhesitant and sure. "And He rode upon a cherub and did fly: yea, He did fly upon the wings of the wind." He comes by the power of His Spirit.

When we think He is doing nothing on our behalf He is yet working, hidden from our view. "He made darkness His secret place..." While others less believing fret and fume because they do not see God doing anything, those who have learned to know Him by trusting and waiting know that God is not idle, and that when the time comes, His works shall be known.

He uses the elements to answer our prayers: weather, storms, volcanoes, earthquakes. They all must obey the voice of Him Who walked upon the waters and bade the violent winds, "Peace, be still."

This is what He did for the man who cried unto Him. He sent from heaven and took him. He drew him up from many waters (disasters). He delivered him from the strong enemy, and He brought him out to a wide place of peace. He will do no less for those who call upon Him now.

-C.M.