

“The LORD is my strength and song, and He has become my salvation; this is my God, and I will praise Him; My father’s God, and I will exalt Him.” (Exo 15:2)

Moses and the sons of Israel declared their strength was the LORD and He had brought them salvation from the hand of slavery. As a result of their deliverance and strength in God they had a desire to praise and exalt (uplift) the name of their God. As I have been reflecting on how powerful and mighty to save our God is I have been finding strength and my heart is filled with praise to Him. I have seen over and over throughout the past few years how weak and without strength I am without Jesus. I have also seen time and time again how He is able to deliver the needy and give strength to the powerless.

“O LORD, You are my God; I will exalt You, I will give thanks to Your name; For You have worked wonders, Plans formed long ago, with perfect faithfulness. Therefore a strong people will glorify You; ... For You have been a defence for the helpless, A defence for the needy in his distress, A refuge from the storm, a shade from the heat; ... Behold, this is our God for whom we have waited that He might save us. This is the LORD for whom we have waited; Let us rejoice and be glad in His salvation.” (Isa 25:1, 3, 4, 8, 9)

The Lord our God is a God who is, “merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth.” (Exo 34:7, NLT) I am coming to learn that when I acknowledge my need for the Savior and that without Him I can do nothing, that is when “His strength is perfected in weakness.”

“For the LORD will vindicate His people, And will have compassion on His servants, When He sees that their strength is gone.” (Deut 32:36)

“He will deliver the needy when he cries for help, The afflicted also, and him who has no helper. He will have compassion on the poor and needy, and the lives of the needy he will save.” (Psa 72:12-13)

I have also been encouraged listening to the chorus in the song, *Unless the Lord Builds the House*:

We have a strong city;
God has appointed salvation for walls,
Open the gates, let the righteous come in.
You will keep him in perfect peace,
Whose mind is stayed on You,
Because he trusts in You.

We can find tremendous strength and peace in our God when we trust Him and lean on His word alone.

“I will trust and not be afraid; For the LORD GOD is my strength.” (Isa 12:2)
“The LORD is my strength and my shield; My heart trusts in Him, and I am helped.” (Psa 28:7)
“In repentance and rest you will be saved, In quietness and trust is your strength.” (Isa 30:15)

My prayer is that when I see my shortcomings and my lack of the character of Jesus in my life I will not get discouraged or lose heart but call on the name of the Lord and trust in Him for a clean heart and a renewed right spirit.

“Do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.”