

I Love You, Lord; You Are My Strength and Power

PSALM 18 - Genevan Psalter

CAPO III - Hypo-Aeolian



1. I love you, Lord; you are my strength and pow - er.
 2. The cords of death were tight - ly coiled a - round me;
 3. The earth then reeled, its pil - lars rocked and qua - vered;
 4. On cher - u - bim he rode, so bright and splen - did;
 5. As earth looked on in fear - ful awe and won - der,



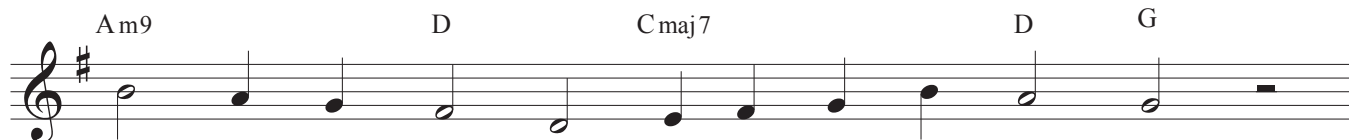
My for - tress is the Lord, my rock and tow - er;
 the tor - rents of de - struc - tion near - ly drowned me.
 the deep foun - da - tions of the moun - tains wa - vered.
 on wings of wind he soared and he de - scend - ed.
 great bolts of light - ning split the skies a - sun - der.



my strong de - liv - er - er to whom I flee,
 I lay in death's en - tan - gling cords en - snared;
 They trem - bled when they saw God's wrath a - wake;
 With dark - ness co - vered was his maj - es - ty;
 He shot his ar - rows, rout - ed all his foes;



my shield, my help - er, who will res - cue me;
 the grave con - front - ed me and I de - spaired.
 his blaz - ing an - ger made them heave and quake.
 clouds dark with wa - ter were his can - o - py.
 none dared the fu - ry of his wrath op - pose.



my strong - hold and the horn of my sal - va - tion.
 I called on God, the Lord my God, to save me;
 Smoke rose up from his nos - trils, black and frighten - ing,
 Out of the bright - ness that ad - vanced be - fore him
 The o - cean's deep, the bed - rock of cre - a - tion,

Tune: Louis Bourgeois - Lyon, 1547, Geneva, 1551 - also used for Psalm 144; Arr. Tim Nijenhuis, © 2020

Lyrics: 1972, Walter van der Kamp; 2009, William Helder - © 2009, Standing Committee of the Book of Praise

Meter: 11.11.10.10 D

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To him I bring my praise and ad - o - ra - tion.
 in my dis - tress his might - y help he gave me.
 and from his mouth flashed scorch - ing fire and light - ning.
 hail - stones and fire broke through the clouds that bore him.
 you, Lord, laid bare, ex - pos - ing earth's foun - da - tion;

I call up - on the Lord; he hears my pleas,
 He from his heaven - ly tem - ple heard my cry;
 He tore the heav - ens in his an - ger's heat,
 His roll - ing thun - der ech - oed through the sky,
 all trem - bled at your might and stood a - ghastr

and I am saved from all my en - e - mies.
 it reached his ears: he an - swered from on high.
 while clouds of dark - ness swirled a - round his feet.
 the might - y roar - ing voice of God Most High.
 at your re - buke, your nos - trils' an - gry blast.

6. From heaven reaching down with his protection,
 he pulled me from the waters of destruction.
 He saved me from my fiercest enemy,
 from those who hate me, foes too strong for me.
 In my calamity the LORD was gracious
 and brought me to a place serene and spacious.
 He came to rescue me and set me free,
 for he, the LORD, showed his delight in me.

7. When foes attacked me, I was safely guarded;
 my righteousness the LORD my God rewarded.
 According to the cleanness of my hands,
 he granted me his gracious recompense.
 I have not from his holy laws departed;
 before him I was blameless and pure-hearted.
 I have committed no iniquity;
 with his rewards the LORD has favoured me.

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8. To all those just and faithful in their dealings,
you, LORD, are just, your faithfulness revealing.
Those who are pure and innocent will see
your innocence and perfect purity.
The shrewd and crafty you outdo in cunning
as you expose the evil they are planning.
You save the humble, for you hear their cries,
but you bring low those who have haughty eyes.

9. The dark around me into brightness turning,
you light my lamp, O LORD, and keep it burning.
With you I face a troop and crush them all,
and with my God I scale the highest wall.
How perfect is his way, how all-excelling!
His word has proven flawless, never failing.
He is for those who in him refuge take
a mighty shield, a fortress none can shake.

10. Who but the LORD is God, so great in
splendour?
Who is a rock but God, my strong defender?
He with his strength has armed and girded me;
my way he has prepared most perfectly.
With him as guide, I will not fall or stumble;
he makes my feet like deer's feet, swift and nimble;
he lets me stand secure on mountain heights.
There I am safe, supported by his might.

11. O LORD, you for the day of battle train me,
and with your help you strengthen and sustain me.
My arms can even bend the strongest bow;
all who attack me I will overthrow.
You granted me the shield of your salvation,
and your right hand upheld my place and station.
Your gentle care has made me strong and great.
I did not slip: my path is broad and straight.

12. I chased my enemies and overthrew them;
I did not stop until I could subdue them.
You gave me strength and armed me for the fight;
you made my foes all turn their backs in flight.
None heard their cries, their pleas for preservation;
I pounded them in their humiliation
fine as the windblown dust before my feet;
I cast them out like refuse of the street.

13. You saved me when beleaguered by the nations;
you made me ruler of their populations,
and foreign people, once to me unknown,
now honour me and cringe before my throne.
When they but heard of me, they all obeyed me,
for you with radiant glory have arrayed me.
They left their strongholds, overcome with fear;
all trembled as before me they drew near.

14. The LORD, he lives! Praised be my rock forever!
Exalted be my faithful God, my Saviour.
He gives me vengeance, justice he pursues;
he hostile nations under me subdues.
O LORD, you honoured me when foes disgraced
me;
you far above my adversaries placed me.
You freed your servant from the tyrant's might;
the fierce and lawless you have put to flight.

15. I will extol you, LORD, among the nations
for all your wondrous works of vindication.
Your perfect righteousness I will proclaim
by singing praises to your holy name.
Time after time God makes his king victorious,
grants his anointed triumphs great and glorious.
To David and his offspring he extends
the loving faithfulness that never ends.