



DEL-HAVEN VISION

THE NEWSLETTER OF CAMP DEL-HAVEN

JULY 2005

"In you, O Lord, I put my trust. Let me never be ashamed. Deliver me in your righteousness. Bow down you ear to me, deliver me speedily. Be my rock of strength; a fortress of defense to save me."
Ps.31:1-2

The differences of opinion as to which particular event in the life and experience of David that produced this song seem to include at least three distinct situations. The one that is the most probable is when he had to flee from Absalom, his rebellious son. But, whatever the personal case may have been for David, there are descriptive principles of God's grace that are explicitly demonstrated for us to follow.

Right up front, in the wake of affliction and trouble that penetrates even to affect the soul, the Lord is the one and only in whom we can trust. The ancient Targum has the first phrase to read, *"In your Word, I put my trust"*. This definitely alludes to the Lord Jesus Christ, the living Word of God. Also, the Psalmist does not say, "I have trusted" or, "I will trust", but more "I do trust" -- which points to an activity that is continuous and ongoing. The Lord is to be trusted at all times. And, in His Word, His gospel, we will never find an occasion where we will be ashamed, or disappointed.

The apostle Paul echoes this sentiment from Ro.1:16-17 when he says, *"I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ for it is the power of God unto salvation for everyone who believes...for in it is the righteousness of God revealed"*. Which, in turn, brings us back to Ps.31:1 and its third phrase that prayerfully demands, *"Deliver me in your righteousness"*. David had come to understand that there is no deliverance at all in his own righteousness, but only in the righteousness of his Lord. Every true believer is led of the Holy Spirit to see this eternal truth. Eternal salvation and eternal justification are synonymous. There can be none of the one without all of the other.

Clothed in His righteousness and with a bowed head in earnest prayer we may plead for the all holy almighty God to bow down His ear to hear every word of our cry. His grace is a condescending grace -- Praise His Name! And, the bold cry of the sore and afflicted soul, that is clothed in the meekness of Christ's imputed righteousness, is permitted to pray, *"deliver me speedily"*! The understanding heart realizes that eternity, the very habitation of the Lord God, is a continuum of His sovereignty and presence, but time is constantly in motion. And, when troubles come upon us we cannot help but feel the urgency of our need for deliverance and relief. Dear ones, our God is ever so sensitive to our urgent need for Him. As our great Savior, He is a relief in the hour of our greatest need. To our flesh He may seem late, but in reality He is always right on schedule.

Hence, He is the rock of our strength, and we can do all things through Him who strengthens us. He is our fortress of defense from all the enemies of our soul. Amen.

*For Christ's glory only!
A. Carpenter*

Our camp season has had a very successful lift off for the summer of 2005. June 16-18 we had our Glory of Christ Bible Conference -- which was a tremendous blessing. CD recordings of the messages are available -- just call me.

Thank You Crest Bible Church

During the same week as the conference, Brother Dwayne Henry and Crest Bible Church held their annual VBS program and rallied together a record food shower for Del-Haven. They put together 18 boxes of food supplies along with a donation of \$300! They have made us a labor of love for the glory of the Lord every year now for six years. We thank and praise the Lord their faithfulness to Him and to us.

First Camp Session off to a Good Start

Our camp season began this year with an older girl's camp (9 to 12 year olds). This year's camp theme song is "Wonderful Grace of Jesus". It was a veritable joy to hear the girls sing this great hymn. Please pray with us that they are still doing so back in their homes and neighborhoods.

Sheri had designed to focus the Bible lessons throughout the week on the women of the Bible. When pizza night came, Mary Lee tested the girls to see if they were paying attention to the Bible studies and they passed with flying colors. Again, please pray that the Lord will cause them to remember what they have learned from His word.

By the way, pizza night has become a camp standard thanks to Heritage Baptist Church of Lee's Summit, MO. Every Wednesday they bring out hot pizzas for the campers (and the staff). What a blessing from heaven this has been.

Below are a couple of snapshots of our first week. Please remember to pray for the children that you see in these photos. There are some real deep-seated personal needs that can only be met by the Lord Jesus Christ. We thank the Lord for you all and your continual support.



*"For you are my rock and my fortress; therefore for your name's sake
lead me and guide me" Ps.31:3*