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PSALM 91:15 - GOD SAYS, "I WILL".

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Introduction:

Over the past few weeks we have focused on **Psalm 91** God makes clear that those who love Him will be rescued, they will be protected, they will call on His Name and He will respond and He will answer them. **Psalm 91:15 - When they call on me, I will answer; I will be with them in trouble. I will rescue them and honor them.**

God is willing. Whenever He says "I WILL" there is no doubt that it will happen. We have to allow God to do his work in our lives. Someone asked me last Sunday, "If God is our protector, then how come people suffer? How come there are people being persecuted for their faith?" **John 16:33 - I have told you all this so that you may have peace in me. Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world.**

I. God wants us to have peace even in the middle of trials.

Jesus told his followers the things He did so they would trust Him and have peace when they faced trials and sorrows. It didn't mean God was angry with them or they did something wrong. He wanted them to know that He had overcome the world and so could they. We are not guaranteed a pass when it comes to trouble, sickness and sorrow but we are guaranteed that God will protect us and be with us.

If you look at Job's life, this man was righteous and God protected his life. He sustained Job in the darkest of situations when he lost his barns, his livestock, his children and got physically sick. The enemy had to get permission to do anything to Job. God was always in control and set the boundaries of what would and would not happen to Job.

God does the same thing for us. He determines what the boundaries are and His desire is that the end result will bring Him glory and honor. There are certain things that can only be accomplished in our

lives through suffering. **James 1:3-4** - For when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be strong in character and ready for anything. When James wrote in his letter, he wanted the followers of Jesus to understand that they would face trials of all kinds. Their faith would be tested and so he encouraged them not to run from the test or trial but to allow it to develop their character so they would be strong and their endurance would be fully developed. We will never reach our full redemptive potential if our faith is not tested and we do not endure the test.

In **Hebrews 11** we see that there were people who overcame death and sickness by faith but others were tortured and sawn in two, they were beaten but were unwilling to deny their faith even for the sake of their lives. God is no respecter of persons, so it wasn't that He loved one more than the other. We must learn that God can be trusted to know what is best for each of us.

Nothing happens to those who are in Christ Jesus that God isn't aware of. He knows how everything impacts our lives and will stand with us through it. When Paul wrote to the believers in Rome, he also touched on this subject. He said that difficult things would come into our lives and the good that results would far outweigh the difficulties we face. Paul echoes the same theme that James does with this whole idea of trials developing character within us.

II. The end result of trials is developed character.

Look at the progression in this part of Paul's letter. **Romans 5:3-5** - We can rejoice, too, when we run into problems and trials, for we know that they are good for us—they help us learn to endure. And endurance develops strength of character in us, and character strengthens our confident expectation of salvation. And this expectation will not disappoint us. For we know how dearly God loves us, because he has given us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with his love. Endurance develops strength of character and character strengthens our confident expectation of salvation.

III. God promises to deliver and honor.

Psalm 91:15 – I will deliver him and honor him.

To be rescued means that you have to allow someone to save you. I have heard about people who were drowning and someone came to save them and they resisted. They did not surrender to the rescue and suddenly the person being rescued overcame the person rescuing them and both were drowned.

When I was in college, my roommate was going to join the Navy and so he would practice his lifesaving skills on me. We would go to the pool and I would get in the deepest part of the pool and he would come and pull me to safety. I learned to trust his strength, his knowledge, his ability and his skill. Every time he would pull me to the side of the pool and rescue me.

The same is true of the Lord. He will always rescue us. When He is in the process of rescuing or delivering us from certain disaster, don't resist or fight against Him. Instead, surrender to His strength, His skill, His knowledge and His ability. If we fight against Him, we make the process of rescue and salvation much more difficult and traumatic than it needs to be.

IV. God wants us to trust Him completely.

Each of these "I Will" statements from **Psalm 91** has to do with what God wills to do but my will also enters into allowing Him to have His way. I must learn to trust Him completely.

Do we trust God to rescue us? Do we trust God to protect us? Do we trust God to answer us? Do we trust God to be with us in trouble? Do we trust God to deliver us and honor us? In that place of trust, do we surrender to His will, His power, His knowledge, His strength and His ability? No matter what our circumstances, we must learn to trust God. To trust implies that we surrender, believe, relinquish and rely.

2 Samuel 22:31 - As for God, his way is perfect. All the LORD'S promises prove true. He is a shield for all who look to him for protection. To trust someone means I place my confidence in someone other than myself. Believe that what God says He will do, He will do! God says not only will I

deliver or rescue him but also I will honor him; glorify, promote, boast, splendor, majesty.

I think it is awesome that our creator longs and desires to boast in and glorify his creation. This says to me that God delights in those who follow Him and allow Him to work in their lives. It brings Him a sense of fulfillment and accomplishment to redeem us and rescue us from sin, from bondage and from spiritual death.

People who are artists, authors and creative in their abilities, will often display their work and boast, "I

did that piece." It brings them and others great joy to experience the work of their hands. They delight in their accomplishment.

God is like that with those of us who follow Him. He delights in displaying our lives to the entire universe. "This is my work. This one is surrendered to me. This one trusts me. I delivered this one; I take delight in everything about them." I need God to rescue me and I want to honor Him with my life. I trust you find yourself in the same place.

Conclusion:

Today, take a step of trust. Commit an area to God where you have been fighting against His rescue. Surrender an area to God where you have not trusted Him. Believe that He will rescue and honor you. He will not fail you. After all He is GOD!