

THE RECIPROCITY PRINCIPLE STRAND**Psalm 18:20-27****REVIEW Psalm 18:1-19**

1. The declaration of love for the Lord strand
 - a. The Lord's love demonstrated to David
 - b. Determinations to love the Lord more
2. The deliverance strand
 - a. Going through a near-death situation
 - b. The Lord hearing and responding to the cries of David
 - c. The Lord was David's support

THE PRINCIPLE OF RECIPROCITY TAUGHT BY DAVID

"With the merciful You will show Yourself merciful;
With a blameless man You will show Yourself blameless;
With the pure You will show Yourself pure;
And with the devious You will show Yourself shrewd.
For You will save the humble people,
But will bring down haughty looks." Psalm 18:25-27

1. With reference to those who are righteous
 - a. Those who are merciful, God will show Himself merciful
 - b. Those who are blameless, the Lord will show Himself blameless
 - c. Those who are pure in heart, the Lord will show Himself pure
 - d. The Lord will save the humble people
2. With reference to the unrighteous
 - a. Those who are devious and perverse, He will show Himself shrewd
 - b. Those with haughty looks will be brought down by the Lord

DAVID'S PERSONAL TESTIMONY OF APPLYING THE PRINCIPLE OF RECIPROCITY

"The Lord rewarded me according to my righteousness;
According to the cleanness of my hands
He has recompensed me.
For I have kept the ways of the Lord,
And have not wickedly departed from my God.
For all His judgments *were* before me,
And I did not put away His statutes from me.
I was also blameless before Him,

And I kept myself from my iniquity.

Therefore the Lord has recompensed me according to my righteousness,
According to the cleanness of my hands in His sight.” Psalm 18:20-24

1. David sought to practise righteousness
 - a. He kept the ways of the Lord
 - b. He had not wickedly departed from his God
 - c. All His judgments were before him
 - d. He did not put away his statutes for him
 - e. He was blameless before Him
 - f. He kept himself from his iniquity
2. The results
 - a. The Lord reciprocated
 - b. In his distress, he cried out to the Lord Psalm 18:6
 - c. He mercifully heard his cry Psalm 18:6
 - d. He delivered him from his strong enemy Psalm 18:17
 - e. The Lord was his strong support and brought him to a broad place Psalm 18:19
 - f. He delivered him because He delighted in him Psalm 18:19

PERSONAL APPLICATION

1. Commitment to be righteous
 - a. To be merciful and blameless
 - b. To be pure and humble
2. Choosing wisely not to be unrighteous
 - a. To not be devious
 - b. To not be proud