## **God is Our Strength**

## Psalm 17/18:1-I will love thee, O LORD, my strength. (KJV)

The Psalmist expresses deep love for the Lord as the Source of personal strength. Believers benefit by considering the Psalms as pure treasures of Divine wisdom. Wisdom in the Psalms is always nourishing, strengthening and timely for daily life. God's Holy Church integrates the Psalms in daily worship throughout the year. Experienced believers learn from the Psalms that their strength is from the Lord. Psalm 17/18:2-The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my

Psalm 17/18:2-The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower. (KJV)

Faithful believers seek strength from the Lord to meet life's daily responsibilities. Strength from the Lord enables believers to complete life's necessary tasks. The Lord provides the essential strength for believers to overcome any weakness. Strong faith opens the believer to the ever-present strength available from the Lord. Believers' prayers and gratitude are rooted in the Lord as the provider of strength. Psalm 17/18:32-It is God that girdeth me with strength, and maketh my way perfect. (KJV)

Believers are often tested during earthly life and require strength to endure. Doubtful thoughts and a sense of weakness create anxiety and fear in believers. The Lord is within reach through prayer to provide strength to overcome weakness. Confidence and hope in the Lord are important for believers to experience strength. Daily decision-making and personal behavior affect the accessibility to strength.

## Psalm 17/18:39-For thou hast girded me with strength unto the battle: thou hast subdued under me those that rose up against me. (KJV)

Believers are empowered by Jesus Christ at Holy Baptism to remain strong in life. Being faithful to Jesus Christ ensures the believer continues to be empowered. God's Holy Church provides the essential nourishment and strength from the Lord. Daily choices and decisions determine whether unity with the Lord continues. Personal weakness arises when complete unity with the Lord is fractured.

Psalm 18/19:14-Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer. (KJV)

The Holy Scriptures offer nourishing messages to strengthen attentive believers. Prayer provides immediate access to the Lord for believers seeking strength. Keeping the heart, mind and soul focused on the Lord ensures access to strength. The believer's use of strength determines if the Lord will continue to replenish it. Strength is to be used according to the Lord's teachings and commandments.

The Holy Apostle and Evangelist Luke. St. Peter of Cetinje, Metropolitan of Montenegro. October 18/31, 2023. Hidden Valley, Pennsylvania.

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