

# Enchanted Forest of Psalms

July 13, 2025

- |            |                                      |                               |
|------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <u>1</u>   | Tree Planted by a Stream             | George Pine's Deep Roots      |
| <u>119</u> | God's Holy Word, Law, Wisdom         | General Sherman Sequoia       |
| <u>19</u>  | Heavens Declare God's Glory          | Huge Oak of David             |
| <u>96</u>  | Sing a New Song, Let Heavens Rejoice | Red Maple's Profuse Beauty    |
| <u>132</u> | Lord, <i>REMEMBER</i> David          | Liberty Trees of Early U.S.A. |
| <u>110</u> | Sit at My Right Hand                 | <i>HANGING</i> Trees of Old   |
| <u>18</u>  | Lord Is My Rock, His Way Perfect     |                               |

## Mighty Elms – Keel of Ship

- |            |  |                                  |
|------------|--|----------------------------------|
| <u>105</u> | Give Praise, Remember Wonders          | Douglas Fir for Homes            |
| <u>38</u>  | Lord, Do Not Rebuke, Arrows Pierced Me | Poisonous Driftwood              |
| <u>32</u>  | My Hiding Place                        | Nobel Pine, 126 Species          |
| <u>23</u>  | Lord is My Shepherd                    | Nightengale of Psalms            |
| <u>139</u> | Thou Has Searched Me, Lord             | Knightwood Oak – Queen of Forest |
| <u>5</u>   | Hear My Cry, Lead Me                   | Hickory – American Wagon Wheel   |
| <u>42</u>  | Deep Calls unto Deep                   | Weeping Willow                   |

Psalm 18:2

The LORD is my ROCK,  
my fortress ... deliverer,  
my God is my ROCK



WHY does BAD HAPPEN to the INNOCENT?

At 1:14 am July 4, 2025, a FLOOD warning was sent ...

FLOOD waters in Kerr County rose 26 feet in 45 minutes  
so far 121 died, 150 missing, too many children



# Psalm 18 – mirrored in 2 Samuel 22

- 1 I Love You LORD, My Strength
- 2-3 Praise—LORD is My Rock
- 4-5 Lament—Cords of Death
- 6 Call—In Distress Call God
- 7-15 Judgement—God's Anger
- 16-19 Rescued—Out of Deep Waters
- 20-24 Righteousness—My Clean Hands
- 25-29 To the Faithful, God Is Faithful
- 30-36 GOD—His Way Perfect
- 37-45 Enemies—Beat Them to Dust
- 46-50 LORD Lives—Praise My Rock

“**LORD**” 16x = **Yahweh**

“**GOD**” 7x = **EL** of 2,598x

Lot going on in these 50 verses

*FACING EVIL – David KNEW who was his ROCK  
KEEL to David's ship of faith was STRONG*



**Kelly Barnes posted this from her sister**

**My sister wrote this poem.**

**I keep going back to it as reporting  
comes in daily on tragic events.**

**Helps me get thru the tragic news cycle**

**POEM for July 2025 –**

**As my heart breaks, I'm asking WHY  
Did such precious little ones  
have to DIE?**

**The pain, the grief, how does one bear  
But in my heart, I know You were there.**

**If I let my mind wander too far away  
The unanswered questions burden my day.**





**Kelly Barnes' sister's POEM 2005 ...**

**So I choose to rest in Your saving grace  
Knowing through their tears,  
they saw Your face.**

**Your peace that engulfs and  
guards my heart**

**These souls live in eternity and  
will never depart.**

**They are at home and alive with You**

**Thank you, Jesus for  
seeing them through.**

**HOLD tightly their Mommies,  
their Daddies, their Family and Friends  
Until that day when they see them again!**





## Psalm 18 – Mighty Elm, Keel of the Ship

### The Enchanted Forest

Psalm 18 describes how  
**GOD** is our  
**Foundation**  
the **KEEL** to our Ship

Mighty Elms

Resistant to Water & Rot

Wherever you GO in the Enchanted Forest

Whenever you visit the Enchanted Forest

your visit is not complete until

Until you've visited you seen in Psalm 18

Grove of Mighty Elm Trees – *Keel of the Ship*





# Psalm 18

HMS Victory - KEEL English Elm

HMS Victory – 227 ft long, 51 wide  
3,500 tons w 6,500 sq yards sail

Keel laid in 1759, launched 1865

Commissioned 1778

Oldest ship *still* commissioned  
6,000 trees & 150 men worked  
90% Oak - KEEL made of ELM



**HMS Victory**  
**at Battle of Trafalgar 1805**  
**J. W. Carmichael (oil, 1856)**



## Psalm 18

**1 I love you, LORD, my strength.**

Psalm 18 has 50 splendid verses

NO Greater English Elm KEEL has ever been laid ...

NO Greater Foundation for a Strong Soul ...

NO Greater Backbone to a sea-worthy LIFE ...

NO Greater COMMAND, Privilege, Honor, Virtue, Nobility ...

NO Greater Distinction, Glory, Tribute, Credit, Prestige,

NO Greater Notability, Merit, Principle, Fame, Esteem,

Respect, Value, Admiration, Effect, or PRIZE than **18:1**

**18:1 I love you, LORD, my strength**

No matter what evil comes, if you can maintain 18:1

You can overcome, survive, endure, even *GET THRU*



# Psalm 18

HMS Victory - KEEL English Elm

As Napoleon ruled on land and  
planned to attack Britain

Britain ruled the seas

Napolean wanted the English Channel

**Battle of Trafalgar 1805**

off southwest coast of Spain

British 27 Ships of the Line  
vs. French & Spanish 33

Admiral Nelson's genius

**WON the day**



**Vice-Admiral Horatio Nelson**



**HMS Victory at Battle of Trafalgar 1805  
by William Clarkson (oil, 1836)**





**HMS Victory at Battle of Trafalgar 1805**  
**J. W. Carmichael (oil, 1856)**





**Vice-Admiral Horatio Nelson**



**HMS Victory's Gun Deck**



# Psalm 18

**Elm is flexible when heated  
Allowing it to make great  
KEELS to ships**

**HMS Victory – British Royal Navy's  
National Museum**

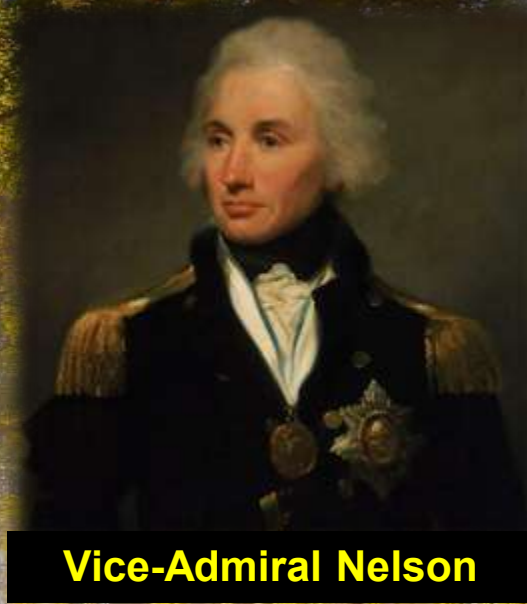
**Largest at time, 104 guns**

**Restored as Battle of Trafalgar  
when it had 800 men on board**

**Admiral Nelson's Flagship**

**Visit today, see spot on Quarter Deck  
where Admiral Nelson fell**

**Spot deep in ship where he died**



**Vice-Admiral Nelson**







**HMS Victory at Battle of Trafalgar 1805  
by William Clarkson (oil, 1836)**



# Psalm 18

**Elm is flexible when heated, allowing it to be molded into KEELS to ships**

- ✓ **KEEL is the backbone of the ship**
- ✓ **KEEL is support for ALL**
- ✓ **KEEL is underwater, rarely seen**
- ✓ **KEEL is FIRST to strike ground when water is too shallow**
- ✓ **If the KEEL breaks, the sails fail**
- ✓ **If the KEEL breaks, canons useless**
- ✓ **If the KEEL breaks, the treasure sinks**
- ✓ **If the KEEL breaks, ALL is Lost**

**In Celtic classical mythology,  
the Elm is a portal to underworld  
even gateways to the AFTERLIFE**





## Psalm 18

**1 I love you, LORD, my strength.**

NO Greater *Foundation* for a Strong Soul ...

NO Greater *Backbone* to a sea-worthy LIFE ...

NO Greater *COMMAND, Privilege, Honor, Virtue, Nobility,*

NO Greater Distinction, Glory, Tribute, Credit, Prestige,

NO Greater Notability, Merit, Principle, Fame, Esteem,

Respect, Value, Admiration, Effect, or PRIZE than **18:1**

**18:1 I love you, LORD, my strength**





## Psalm 18

- 1 I love you, LORD, my strength.
- 2 The LORD is my ROCK, my fortress & my deliverer;  
my God is my ROCK, in whom I take refuge,  
my shield & the horn of my salvation,  
my STRONGHOLD.
- 3 I called to the LORD, who is worthy of praise,  
and I have been saved from my enemies.

David knows ... and we feel his strength AND strength of his FAITH

Thinking back to July 4, 2025 in Kerr County – We NEED a ROCK

Losing a child is the MOST DEVASTATING - MOST HEARTBREAKING  
MOST PAINFUL GRIEF in ALL THE WORLD

Only God can be ROCK in that Storm ... even when our MINDS

**CANNOT COMPREHEND**



## Psalm 18

4 The cords of DEATH entangled me;  
torrents of destruction overwhelmed me.

5 The cords of the grave coiled around me;  
the snares of death confronted me.

6 In my distress I called to the LORD;  
I cried to my God for help.

From his temple he heard my voice;  
my cry came before him, into his ears.



Hardly imagine what the Adults & Kids felt as the waters ROSE

Barely conceive the FEAR of “DEATH entangled” as literally

WATER rose so **Fast & Furious** ... their BUILDING SHOOK

BEFORE they were fully awake to perceive what was going on

UNLIKE the rising swelling river – we FACE an **EVIL RIVER today**



## Psalm 18

Toby Keith sings a fine song on JUSTICE

*Beer For My Horses* in 2004 was on

Toby Keith's 4th album *Unleashed*

So popular it spawned a full-length movie

Well ah man come on the 6 o'clock news

Said somebody's been shot,  
somebody's been abused

Somebody blew up a building

Somebody stole a car

Somebody got away

Somebody didn't get too far,

*Yeah, They didn't get too far*

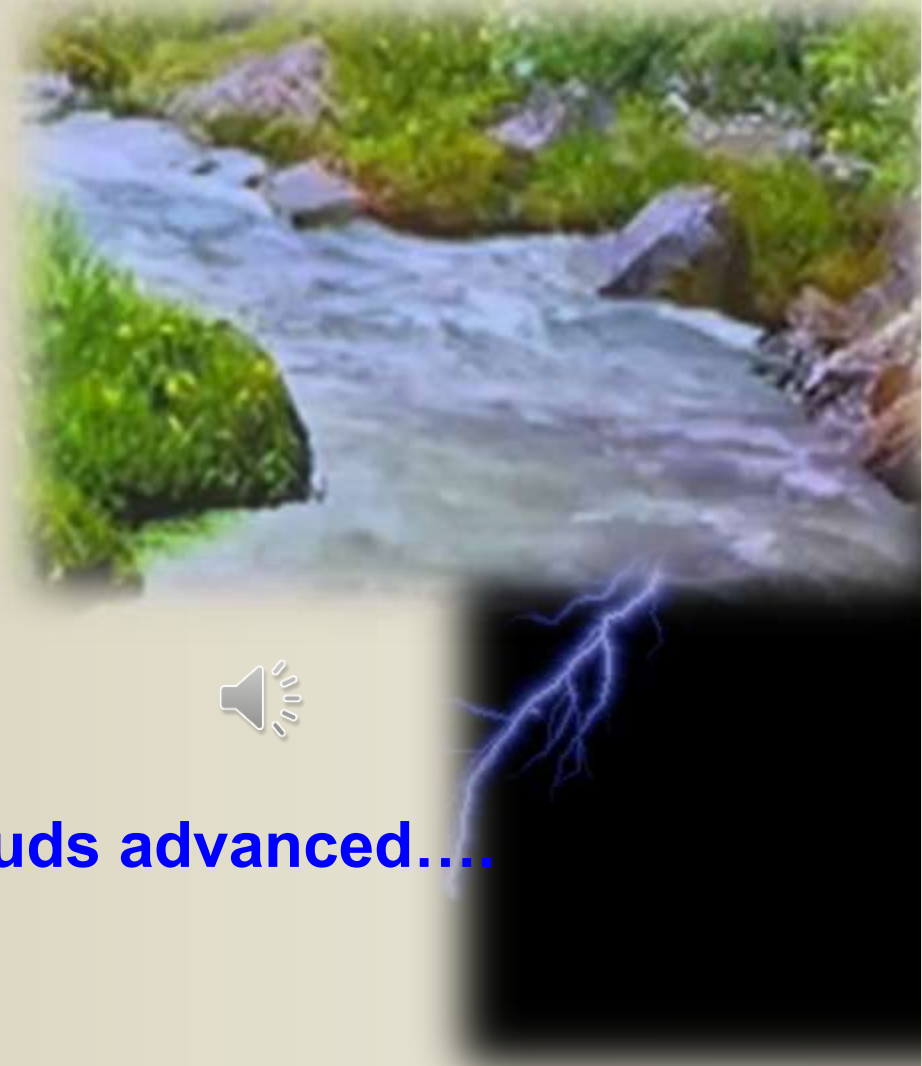




## Psalm 18

### 7-15 – God's Anger

- 7 The earth trembled & quaked,  
foundations of the mountains shook;  
they trembled because he was angry.
- 8 Smoke rose from his nostrils,  
consuming fire came from his mouth....
- 9 He parted the heavens and came down....
- 10 He mounted the cherubim and flew....
- 12 Out of the brightness of his presence clouds advanced....
- 13 The LORD thundered from heaven;  
the voice of the Most High resounded.
- 14 He shot his arrows ... great bolts of lightning....
- 15 Valleys of the sea were exposed, foundations of the earth laid bare  
at your rebuke, LORD, at the blast of breath from your nostrils.





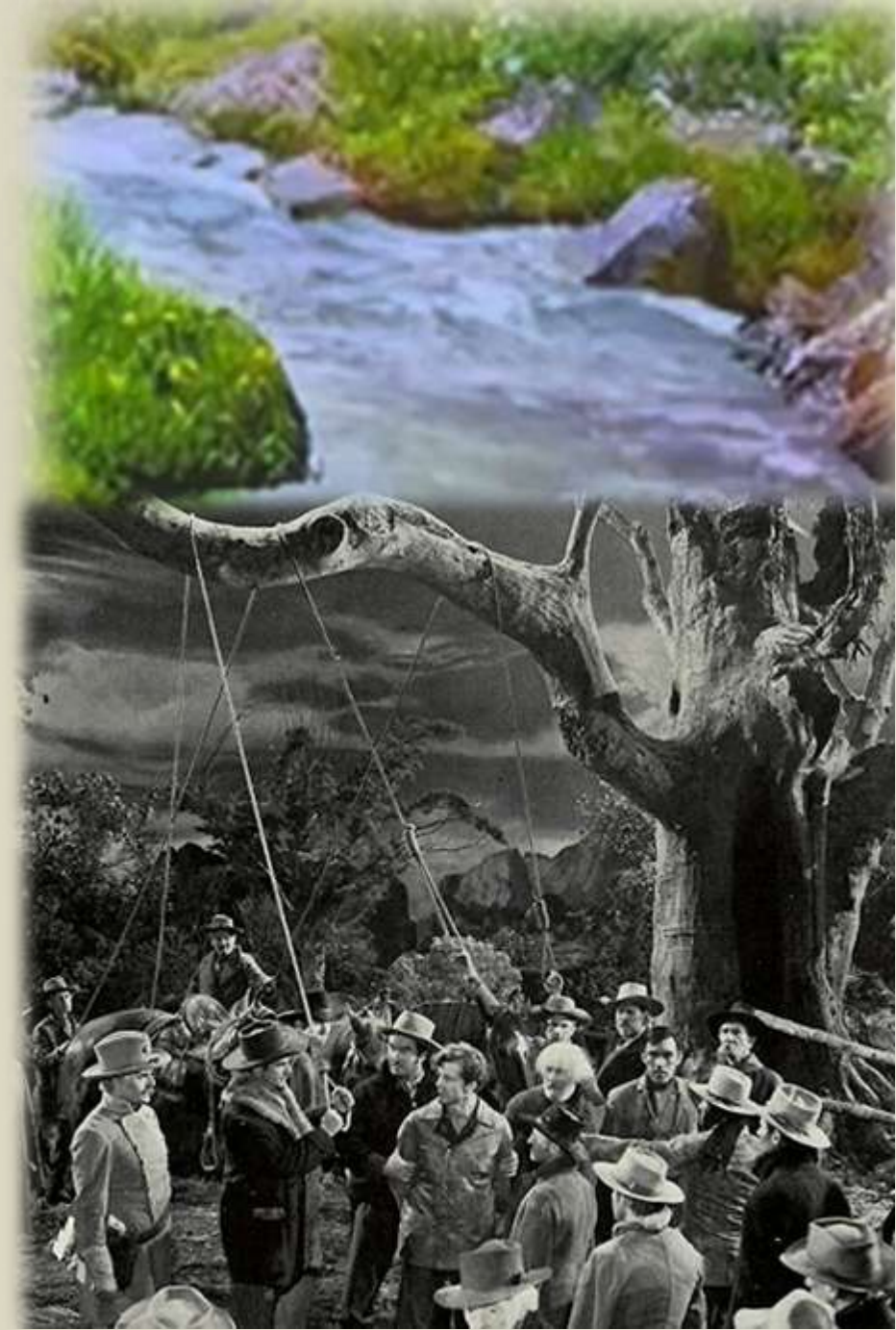
## Psalm 18

Toby Keith sings a fine song on JUSTICE  
*Beer For My Horses* was 2004

Grand pappy told my pappy,  
back in my day, son  
A man had to answer for the  
*wicked that he done*

Take all the rope in Texas,  
find a tall oak tree

Round up all of them bad boys  
hang them high in the street  
*for all the people to see*





## Psalm 18

16-19 – Rescued out of Deep Water

**16 He reached down from on high & took hold of me;  
he drew me out of deep waters.**

On September 3, 1878, the wooden paddle steamer  
SS Princess Alice collided with the much bigger iron  
Coal ship, SS Bywell Castle on the River Thames  
Almost 700 people died, all from Princess Alice

Sunday morning, Sept. 8, Spurgeon preached from Psalm 18:16

Began noting that EVERYONE in England was grieving the LOST

Everyone was talking about it ... Spurgeon said:

**“Whatever the plan of God is,  
it is now being carried out under**

**the shadow of the *FALL***





## Psalm 18

16-19 – Rescued out of Deep Water

16 He reached down from on high & took hold of me;  
he drew me out of deep waters.

17 He rescued me from my powerful enemy....

18 They confronted me in the day of my disaster  
but the LORD was my support.

19 He brought me out into a spacious place;  
he rescued me because he delighted in me.

Did you hear about that  
Coast Guard Rescue Swimmer in Kerrville?  
600 girls at Camp Mystic  
Want to HEAR from Ruskin?



Coast Guard Rescue  
Swimmer in Kerrville

**Scott Ruskin**

**SAVED 160**









## Psalm 18

### 20-24 – Righteousness & Clean Hands

20 LORD has dealt with me according to my righteousness;  
according to the CLEANNESS of my hands....

21 For I have kept the ways of the LORD;

22-23 All his laws are before me.... blameless before him....

24 LORD has rewarded me according to my righteousness,  
according to the CLEANNESS of my hands in his sight.

Clean Hands

**CLEAN HANDS**

**CLEANNESS OF MY HANDS**

**IN HIS SIGHT**





## Psalm 18

25-29 – God is Faithful

25-26 To the faithful you show yourself faithful....

27 You save the humble

but bring low those whose eyes are haughty.

28 You, LORD, KEEP MY LAMP BURNING....

29 With your help I can advance against a troop,  
with my God I can scale a wall.

We CANNOT fathom or probe or dissect or examine ***HOW***

We shall NEVER understanding fully, totally, completely ***WHY***

But if we look to God, ***HE will***

**KEEP OUR LAMP BURNING**



## Psalm 18

Toby Keith sings a fine song on JUSTICE

*Beer For My Horses* was 2004



That justice is the one thing  
you should always find

You gotta saddle up your boys  
You gotta draw a hard line

When the gun smoke settles  
we'll sing a victory tune

And we'll all meet back at the Church Parlor  
We'll raise up our glasses against evil forces

Singin' . . .

**JUICE** for my men,  
**WATER** for my horses







## Psalm 18

**30-36 – God—His Way Perfect**

**30 As for God, his way is perfect:  
The LORD's word is flawless;  
He shields all who take refuge in him.**

**31 For who is God besides the LORD?  
And who is the Rock except our God?**

**32 It is God who arms me with strength...**

**33 He makes my feet like the feet of a deer....**

**34-36 He trains my hands for battle....  
so that my ankles do not give way.**

**There IS still a lot more EVIL to face before the Sun goes Down**

**That is WHY we must PRAY ... and**

**Believe our Prayers arise to God**







## **Psalm 18**

**37-45 – Enemies—Beat Them to DUST**

**37 I pursued my enemies and overtook them;  
I DID NOT TURN BACK till they were destroyed.**

**38-42 I CRUSHED them.... BEAT them ... TRAMPLED them....**

**43-44 You have delivered me ...  
made me the head of nations....**

**45 They all lose heart ... trembling....**

**David knew deliverance AFTER seemingly impossible persecution**

**WISH we could all say that ... have that ... treasure that**

**WISH we could all write songs, poems, and PSALMS about that**

**Regardless, we have Psalm 18 majesty**





## Psalm 18

Toby Keith sings a fine song on JUSTICE  
*Beer For My Horses* was 2004

We got too many gangsters  
doing dirty deeds

We've got too much corruption,  
and crime in the streets

It's time the long arm of the law  
put a few more in the ground

Send them all to their Maker and  
He'll settle them down

*You can bet  
He'll set them down*







## Psalm 18

46-50 – LORD lives! Praise my ROCK

46 The LORD lives! Praise be to my ROCK!  
Exalted be God my Savior!

47-48 He ... avenges me ... exalted me....

THERE IS JUSTICE ... JUSTICE WILL COME ...

May not see ALL of the JUSTICE I desire in my life—**YET**

49 Therefore I will praise you, LORD,  
among the nations;

I will sing the praises of YOUR NAME.

50 He gives his king great victories;

he shows unfailing LOVE to his anointed, to

David & to his descendants ***FOREVER***



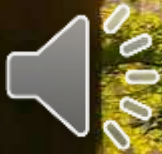


Psalm 18:50

He will he shows unfailing LOVE  
to his anointed, to

David & his descendants

*FOREVER*



After Psalm 18, we saw's David's final Victory

*Fulfilled in JESUS*