I've Got To Pay Him Back!

(Psalm 116:12-14 KJV)

*12What shall I render unto the LORD for all his benefits toward me? 13I will take the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of the LORD. 14I will pay my vows unto the LORD now in the presence of all his people.*

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n the text before us we learn of a man possibly David who has taken a trip back down memory lane as Minnie Riperton might say! This is a psalm of one who has been delivered from great troubles and will continue praise the Lord for the deliverance. The psalmist did not have trivial troubles, for they were very severe. The difficulties the psalmist had surrounded him. No matter which way he looked, he looked at troubles. In every situation in his life he seemed to be affected. He was not looking for difficulties, but they came anyway.

In fact at this particular time when the psalmist was "at rest" (v. 7), unscrupulous men whom he had trusted lied about him (v. 11) and created trouble for him. In fact, their deception almost cost him his life (vv. 3-4), but he called on the Lord and was saved from death (vv. 1-2).

The psalmist did not resort to drink or drugs in the time of difficulty but sought Deity in prayer. Drinking will only irrigate your troubles, drugs will add to your troubles, but Deity will deliver from your troubles. Many things fail us in times of trouble, but God shines in such times, for He is *"a very present help in trouble"* (Psalm 46:1).

This is a very **personal Psalm**, with the writer making reference to himself **37** times in **19** verses. And only in **3** verses, **5**, **15**, and **19** there is not at least one personal pronoun used—the exciting news to shout about is that we can relate to this man's testimony—because the Psalmist used the personal pronoun to pull us into his territory of life difficult realities, so let's you and I use the personal pronoun as well. Now let's be honest David's praise was a personal praise—David said in verse 1, "**I Love The Lord**" It's very easy to say I love the Lord and a lot more difficult to actually practice that love!

(Matthew 22:37-39 KJV)

*37Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.38This is the first and great commandment.39And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.*

The Psalmist's expression of love is because the Lord heard and answered his prayer. The Psalmist was in grave trouble and the Lord came down and delivered him while in a dare situation. **So, ask yourself How many times has God done the same for us?** When we've been in great need and cried out, He has been there for us! David is literally saying—that when he looks back over his life his testimony is "**I Got To Pay Him Back!**" Here's the 3 point outlines for the inquisitive minds before us: