"Surrounded by Deliverance"

"You are my hiding place; You shall preserve me from trouble; You shall surround me with songs of deliverance." (Psalm 32:7 NKJV)

Deliverance from Danger

Daniel 6:16-22 - (16) "Then the king commanded, and Daniel was brought and cast into the den of lions. The king declared to Daniel, 'May your God, whom you serve continually, deliver you.' (17) And a stone was brought and laid on the mouth of the den, and the king sealed it with his own signet and with the signet of his lords, that nothing might be changed concerning Daniel. (18) Then the king went to his strongly opposed our message. (16) At my first defense no one came to stand by me, but all deserted me. May it not be charged against them! (17) **But** the Lord stood by me and strengthened me, so that through me the message might be fully palace and spent the night fasting; no diversions were brought to him, and sleep fled from him. (19) Then, at break of day, the king arose and went in haste to the den of lions. (20) As he came near to the den where Daniel was, he cried out in a tone of anguish. The king declared to Daniel, 'O Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God, whom you serve continually, been able to deliver you from the lions? Then Daniel said to the king, 'O king, live forever! (22) My God sent his angel and shut the lions' mouths, and they have not harmed me, because I was found blameless before him; and also before you, O king, I have done no harm."

Surreptitious Stalker

2 Timothy 4:14-18 – (14) "Alexander the coppersmith did me great harm; the Lord will repay him according to his deeds. (15) Beware of him yourself, for he proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. (18) The Lord will rescue (to snatch out of) me from every evil deed and bring me safely into his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever..."

"A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand, but it will not come near you. You will only look with your eyes and see the recompense of the wicked. Because you have made the LORD your dwelling place — the Most High, who is my refuge — no evil shall be allowed to befall you, no plague come near your tent." (Psalm 91:7-10)

Key Point: God's Deliverance is Immanent & Imminent

Response:

(1) Acknowledge the Hordes

"If anyone stirs up strife, it is not from me; whoever stirs up strife with you shall fall because of you. Behold, I have created the smith who blows the fire of coals and produces a weapon for its purpose. I have also created the ravager to destroy; no weapon that is fashioned against you shall succeed, and you shall confute every tongue that rises against you in judgment. This is the heritage (inheritance, estate, possession) of the servants of the LORD and their vindication from me, declares the LORD." (Isaiah 54:15-17)

(2) Remember the Battle is the Lord's

"O our God, will you not execute judgment on them? For we are powerless against this great horde that is coming against us. We do not know what to do, but our eyes are on you.' Meanwhile all Judah stood before the LORD, with their little ones, their wives, and their children. And the Spirit of the LORD came upon Jahaziel...a Levite of the sons of Asaph, in the midst of the assembly. And he said, 'Listen, all Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem and King Jehoshaphat: Thus says the LORD to you, 'Do not be afraid and do not be dismayed at this great horde, for the battle is not yours but God's." (2 Chronicles 20:12-15)

Do not Fear the Hordes; The Battle is the Lord's

Questions:

What impacted me the most in this message? Do I realize my favored status as God's child? (Rom. 8:31-39) Am I listening to the lions roar, or to God's voice? (Ps. 91:13-16; 1 Sam. 13:27; Ps. 34:10; Prov. 22:13; 1 Peter 5:8)

(ESV used unless otherwise noted)