

## DON'T TAKE GOD'S GLORY

When things are going good, we often become complacent and self-serving. In the beginning, we may acknowledge God's blessings, but, as time goes on and things keep working in our favor, we may begin to think that we have a greater part in our success than God does.

In Psalm 18, we have seen the struggles of David vividly and poetically described. He paints a violent picture of the battles he fought and the victories he achieved. Through it all, he never tries to make the case that it was because of his greatness he was able to overcome his enemies or his circumstances. He knows it was all because of the LORD.

In the final section of the psalm (46-50), he declares, *The LORD lives! Praise be to my Rock! Exalted be God my Savior! He is the God who avenges me, who subdues nations under me, who saves me from my enemies. You exalted me above my foes; from violent men you rescued me. Therefore I will praise you among the nations, O LORD; I will sing praises to your name. He gives his king great victories; he shows unfailing kindness to his anointed, to David and his descendants forever.*

What the world may call good luck, God's people acknowledge as providence and grace. When someone sends you good vibes and asks the "universe" to send positive energy their way, Christians acknowledge the Creator of the universe and the one who holds it all in place by his power. Don't ever start to think that your "good fortune" has anything to do with how great you are - don't take God's glory.

Instead, shout to the rooftops that the LORD, God of heaven and earth exists! He is the one who has glory (honor, distinction, and magnificence). Let everyone around you know that everything good is from God and he wants to be their God, too. Let them know about his love, grace, and promises. To God be the glory!

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