

PULPIT MINISTRY DECEMBER 2010

Theme: **THE LOVE OF GOD**

MORNING (COMBINED) WORSHIP

5 December 2010

Title: **"I WILL LOVE YOU, O LORD"**

Text: **Psalm 18**

(I) A BEAUTIFUL DECLARATION OF LOVE FOR GOD

"I will love You, O LORD, my strength. The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; My God, my strength, in whom I will trust; My shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold." Psalm 18:1-2

1. I will love You, O LORD

- a) A confession of a true heart of love
- b) A commitment of love at all times

2. Reasons for this strong declaration of love

- a) Essence of God's love already learned
- b) Experience of God's love in the context of life
 - i) Strength
 - ii) Rock
 - iii) Fortress
 - iv) Deliverer
 - v) Shield
 - vi) Horn of salvation
 - vii) Stronghold

(II) FACING DIFFICULT TIMES OF LIFE

1. Death

- a) Pangs of death (**Psalm 18:4a**)
- b) Sorrows of Sheol (**Psalm 18:5**)
- c) Snares of death (**Psalm 18:5b**)

2. Evil

Floods of ungodliness (**Psalm 18:4b**)

3. Distress (Psalm 18:6a)

(III) DISCOVERING GOD'S LOVE IN DIFFICULT TIMES

1. His hearing of our prayers (Psalm 18:6)

2. His swiftness in response

*"He rode upon a cherub, and flew;
He flew upon the wings of the wind..." Psalm 18:10*

3. His deliverance

"He delivered me from my strong enemy..." Psalm 18:17a

"He delivered me because He delighted in me..." Psalm 18:19b

4. His Presence

*"You have given me the shield of Your salvation;
Your right hand has held me up,
Your gentleness has made me great." Psalm 18:35*

(IV) A CHALLENGE

- 1. To discover afresh God's love**
- 2. To determine to deepen our love for God**