

April 27 Answers

- 1) David's victory over all his enemies. In the west, David defeated the Philistines and won key battles in the cities of Gath and Gath. In the east, David conquered the Moabites and forced them to pay tribute. In the north, David subdued Hadadezer and the Syrians and captured many articles of gold and silver. In the south, David destroyed the Edomites in the Valley of Salt and put garrisons throughout Edom. The author of 2 Samuel summarized David's success this way: "The LORD **gave** victory to David wherever he went" (2 Sam 8:14). This teaches us that the key to victory is found in God's enabling **power**. If we remain dedicated and loyal to God, He will give us the grace we need to conquer our foes! Psalm 60 reveals that David experienced **setbacks** during his battles. Instead of panicking and giving up, David brought his frustration and discouragement to God. He called out, "Save us and help us with your right hand, that those you **love** may be delivered" (Ps 60:5 NIV). He also recognized the true source of his success: "With **God** we shall do valiantly; it is he who will tread down our foes" (Ps 60:12). When every enemy had been subdued, David wrote a song of **praise**, thanking God for delivering him from all his troubles (Ps 18). This teaches us that the proper way to celebrate our achievements is to **honor** and glorify God. It's interesting that God gave David the very things He told Israel's kings not to multiply for themselves: **horses, silver** and **gold** (cf. 1 Chr 18:4, 10). David's reaction is telling. He **hamstrung** the horses and **dedicated** the silver and gold to God. How tightly do we cling to the things God gives us?