

Psalm 108

Psalm 108 contains a prayer that was crafted as King David steeled himself for battle against the Edomites. As such, this Psalm was written in the context of impending conflict and danger. It represents the kind of prayer that should be considered and uttered when real, and foreboding, challenges arise. The culmination of the prayer, found in v. 12-13, constitutes one of the great examples of the ground of our faith in God in the storm.

1. The commitment to God

- a. Notice the very first declaration in the Psalm, “my heart is steadfast”
 - i. The word steadfast is used many times in the Psalms but, generally speaking, it is combined with love to denote the “steadfast love” of the Father
 - ii. The word has significance as it is meant to communicate a rock solid commitment to something or someone
 - iii. In this case, the term is meant to signify unending and unbending commitment
- b. What interests me about this Psalm in particular is that steadfastness is present even when immediate gratification is not
 - i. Look at verse 11, evidently God had not been present with Israel in their immediately previous battles
 - ii. We are not given much information but we can surmise that this was determined based on relative failures on the battlefield
 - iii. The combination of these two truths (steadfastness in failure) is a marvelous example of biblical faith
 - iv. So many of us are quick to turn our proverbial backs on God when He doesn’t come through when we think He should but this Psalm shows us two things
 1. First, our failure is not the product of an unjust or impotent God
 2. Second, our responsibility to the Lord remains the same

2. The prayer to God

- a. The final two verses of this Psalm are so encouraging and helpful
- b. There are two assertions that are made
- c. First, “human help is worthless”
 - i. What a statement! The eyes of faith comprehend the truth that God will always win the battle
 - ii. Furthermore, the man of God ascertains that mankind is no match for the challenges of this world
 - iii. You can accrue all of the talent, weaponry and wisdom the world has to offer and you still have that which is “worthless”
 - iv. I so wish that more believers lived with this conviction
 1. It is “worthless” to have material weapons if we don’t have the Lord
 2. It is “worthless” to ingratiate ourselves to kings if we don’t have God
- d. Second, God’s blessing guarantees ultimate victory

- i. While the people had not been successful yet, the steadfast faith of David relied on the truth that God would grant victory to those who love and believe in Him
 - ii. It would be Him, and Him alone, that trampled down the enemies of Israel
 - iii. This is instructive, David is setting up the stage for praise to occur
 - iv. He knew that their previous defeats proved their inadequacy
 - v. He recognized Israel's dependence upon the Lord
 - vi. He came to acknowledge the need for God alone
- e. This is the ground of biblical faith
 - i. Only when we come to renounce our own might and look outside of ourselves to the Lord for guidance and victory do we find the ground of our hope