

Sunday Night Message

December 27, 2015

Psalm 108

Series – The Psalms

Text – Psalm 108

Introduction

This psalm was taken from Psalm 57:7 – 11 and Psalm 60:5 – 12.

We will review what we already learned from those passages.

I David's Persistence and Praise

Psalm 57 in the introduction states: “when he fled from Saul in the cave” – The context of Psalm 57 can be found in 1 Samuel 22:1 - 5; and Psalm 142. In the last psalm, David fled from the Philistines, and was hiding in a cave. Some say that this psalm records a day in the life of David as he was hiding in the cave because in v. 4 he is lying down, and in v. 8 he is awakening.

One thing that is very noticeable throughout this psalm is David's trust in the Lord, even though he is on the run from Saul.

A David's Persistence (vs. 1 – compare with Psalm 57:7)

"My heart is fixed, O God, my heart is fixed: I will sing and give praise." (Psalms 57:7)

The word “fixed” means firmly established or stable. It has the idea of firmness or resoluteness.

Read 112:1 – 10, focusing on verse 7.

David's heart was fixed. He had made up his mind and he wasn't about to change it:

"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord." (1 Corinthians 15:58)

"The Lord GOD hath given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to him that is weary: he wakeneth morning by morning, he wakeneth mine ear to hear as the learned. The Lord GOD hath opened mine ear, and I was not rebellious, neither turned away back. I gave my back to the smiters, and my cheeks to them that plucked off the hair: I hid not my face from shame and spitting. For the Lord GOD will help me;

therefore shall I not be confounded: therefore have I set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be ashamed." (Isaiah 50:4-7)

"And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:" (Ephesians 4:11-15)

"Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock. And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it." (Matthew 7:24-27)

"Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper. The ungodly are not so: but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away. Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous. For the LORD knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish." (Psalms 1:1-6)

"If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord. A double minded man is unstable in all his ways." (James 1:5-8)

B David's Praise (vs. 2 – 5; compare with Psalm 57:8 – 11)

"Awake up, my glory; awake, psaltery and harp: I myself will awake early." (Psalms 57:8)

David got up early to pray. and to praise the Lord.

"My voice shalt thou hear in the morning, O LORD; in the morning will I direct my prayer unto thee, and will look up." (Psalms 5:3)

*"I will praise thee, O Lord, among the people: I will sing unto thee among the nations."
(Psalms 57:9)*

"For thy mercy is great unto the heavens, and thy truth unto the clouds." (Psalms 57:10)

"Be thou exalted, O God, above the heavens: let thy glory be above all the earth." (Psalms 57:11)

II David's Prayer (vs. 6 - 13)

This portion of Psalm 108 was taken from Psalm 60.

The context of Psalm 108 is found in 2 Samuel 8:1 - 14; 10:6 - 19 (parallel passages in 1 Chronicles 18:1 - 13; 19:6 - 19).

Apparently David was waging war in the northeast, as far as Syria (Aramzobah) and Mesopotamia (Aramnaharaim). While fighting the battle in the north, David was attacked from the rear by Edom, which caused quite a stir in the camp of David, but God delivered them.

"That thy beloved may be delivered; save with thy right hand, and hear me." (Psalm 60:5)

A A Swift Answer from God (vs. 6 - 9; compare with Psalm 60:5 - 8)

God gave David a quick reply to his prayer, and David believed what God said.

"God hath spoken in his holiness; I will rejoice, I will divide Shechem, and mete out the valley of Succoth." (Psalms 60:6)

"Gilead is mine, and Manasseh is mine; Ephraim also is the strength of mine head; Judah is my lawgiver;" (Psalms 60:7)

Shechem was the chief city in Ephraim, and with Succoth, was located west of the Jordan River, while Gilead and Manasseh (the half tribe) were east of the Jordan River. Ephraim was a strong tribe, called to defend Israel ("helmet"); and Judah was chosen to be the royal tribe, bearing the scepter (Gen. 49:10). ¹

¹ Wiersbe, W. W. (2004). *Be worshipful* (1st ed., p. 207). Colorado Springs, CO: Cook Communications Ministries.

"Moab is my washpot; over Edom will I cast out my shoe: Philistia, triumph thou because of me." (Psalms 60:8)

Notice the derogatory way God refers to the enemies of His people.

B A Spoken Assurance (vs. 10 – 13; compare with Psalm 60:9 – 12)

David expresses his confidence in God's answer. He trusts that God was going to deliver them.

"Who will bring me into the strong city? who will lead me into Edom?" (Psalms 60:9)

"Wilt not thou, O God, which hadst cast us off? and thou, O God, which didst not go out with our armies?" (Psalms 60:10)

"Give us help from trouble: for vain is the help of man." (Psalms 60:11)

"Through God we shall do valiantly: for he it is that shall tread down our enemies." (Psalms 60:12)

Preaching Point – It is only “through God” that we will be able to defeat our enemies and live the victorious Christian life.

How can we recover from a sucker punch?

- 1 Don't quit – get back up.
- 2 Depend upon God's strength not your own.
- 3 Give God the glory.
- 4 Watch out for another attack – don't let your guard down.