

SBC – May 17, 2026
Psalm 108:1-13 (NKJV)
“My Heart is Steadfast”

Psalm 108 (NKJV)
A Song. A Psalm of David.

Psalm 108 is definitely a Psalm of David. In fact, it is a compilation of Psalm 57 and Psalm 60 so arranged for this particular occasion.

Slide # 1

Psalm 108

vv. 1-5 (Psalm 57:7-11)

vv. 6-13 (Psalm 60:5-12)

Psalm 108 shows us that we can and should use the words of Scripture as our present prayers and praises, suitable to our present situation. – David Guzik

God’s truth is adaptable to new situations, and old songs become “new songs” when new challenges are matched with changeless theology. – **Warren Wiersbe**

Slide # 2

Psalm 108

“My Heart is Steadfast”

vv. 1-6 Earnest Praise to God

vv. 7-13 Declaration of Victory Through God

1 O God, my heart is steadfast; I will sing and give praise, even with my glory.

David declares that his heart is steadfast, meaning set or fixed! His heart is set on giving praise to God. He will express it in song as David loved to do.

And he says he will do it “**with my glory**” meaning with all his being, with all his strength, with all that is within him.

2 Awake, lute and harp! I will awaken the dawn.

Not only did David praise the Lord in song, but also with musical accompaniment. David was a skilled musician (1 Sam. 16:18) and this skill was part of “his glory” that he offered up to God in worship.

The lute was a stringed instrument, thought to have twelve strings, and played with the fingers. The *harp* was also a stringed instrument, thought to have ten strings.

In view here are stringed instruments used to sing worship songs to God.

David was determined to begin the very start of his day in praise. He determined to give God the choicest part of the day.

And so (poetically) he summons his musical instruments to awaken so as to awaken the day and the break of dawn.

What a wonderful way to start the day – in praise to God. We should awaken the dawn of the new day in worship and praise. No wonder David was called “A man after God’s own heart.”

Slide # 3

Praise is more divine than prayer;
Prayer points the happy road to heaven.
Praise is already there. – ***Unknown Author***

3 I will praise You, O LORD, among the peoples, And I will sing praises to You among the nations.

David directed his praise to the LORD, which is the name YHWH, which is the covenant name of God, denoting His covenant faithfulness to Israel.

David recognized that his whole life was wrapped up in God’s covenant faithfulness and therefore will sing YHWH’s praise among the peoples – among the nations.

David was not ashamed but determined to praise God before all. His praise was not merely private and secret, but open and public without shame.

4 For Your mercy is great above the heavens, And Your truth reaches to the clouds.

David here seeks to convey the extensiveness of God's mercy and truth. They are GREAT! Mercy is the word "**hesed**" emphasizing God's loyal love or covenant faithfulness. Truth could here be understood in the sense of faithfulness.

How great is God's faithful love? How great is God's faithfulness? It really is so great that it cannot be measured. David worshiped God for His GREAT faithfulness! David was absolutely convinced that God was there for him and that He would never fail!

This causes David to exclaim...

5 Be exalted, O God, above the heavens, And Your glory above all the earth;

David desires for God to be exalted above the heavens. To be exalted means to be lifted up, held up supremely, held in highest regard. When he desires that God's glory be above the earth, he is poetically expressing that God's character, His reputation, be supremely recognized and exalted by everyone.

Slide # 4

"God *is* exalted above the heavens. His glory *does* fill the earth. The goal of history is that God might be known as God and be honored for it." – **James Montgomery Boice**

If God's faithfulness is immeasurable, then honor and recognition of God should correspondingly be immeasurably great! A God of great mercy and truth is worthy of great praise.

6 That Your beloved may be delivered, Save with Your right hand, and hear me.

David's great praise of God transitioned into a prayer to God for deliverance. The basis of his petition is seated in the character of God. It is because of WHO God is that David has absolute confidence in prayer.

The opening of Psalm 108 is so filled with praise that we didn't even know David was in trouble. He only mentioned his distress after setting his heart and mind right with praise from his entire being.

– **David Guzik**

What a great point!

David's example here is to first and foremost focus on God, His character, His great faithfulness, and from there go to petition. First praise, then petition!

David understood the truth of God's great faithfulness but also the truth of His great love.

The right hand was regarded as the hand of skill and strength. Based on God's great faithfulness and love, David is asking God to exert His great power on behalf of His people in answer to prayer.

And then David affirms God's covenant promises regarding the land.

7 God has spoken in His holiness: "I will rejoice; I will divide Shechem And measure out the Valley of Succoth.

When God speaks, it is always consistent with His holiness. Holy denotes God as being totally set apart in terms of the quality of His character. He is the perfect standard of moral purity.

Slide # 5

Numbers 23:19 (NKJV)

19 "God is not a man, that He should lie, Nor a son of man, that He should repent. Has He said, and will He not do? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?

God in His holiness has spoken! You can absolutely count on Him to make it good – to fulfill what He has spoken!

God's promises are certain, sworn on His immutable character.

- **HCSB**

David, as the king of Israel, was also a prophet (cf. Acts 2:30). Here, he prophesies about what God has determined in terms of the promised land.

David here affirmed that the God of Israel, who has spoken in His holiness, has given the Land of Israel to the people of Israel forever.

– *The Moody Bible Commentary*

Shechem was a centrally located city in the hill country of Canaan on the west side of the Jordan river, while Succoth was located on the east side of the river.

Slide # 6



When God says, “I will divide Shechem and measure out the Valley of Succoth,” it is a statement of His sovereignty over the land. He would divide and measure the land as He pleased.

8 Gilead is Mine; Manasseh is Mine; Ephraim also is the helmet for My head; Judah is My lawgiver.

Gilead was east of the Jordan River, involving a mountainous but highly fertile territory related to the tribes of Reuben, Gad, and the half tribe of Manasseh, and located in modern-day Jordan.

The tribe of Ephraim descended from Joseph and was one of the most prominent of the tribes in Israel. Sometimes the northern tribes were collectively called “Ephraim.” As such, Ephraim was like a helmet expressing God’s strength and security for His people.

Judah, as God’s lawgiver, was to be the seat of His government. Judah was the tribe of king David and later of Jesus the Messiah.

Slide # 7

Genesis 49:10 (NKJV)

10 The scepter shall not depart from Judah, Nor a **lawgiver** from between his feet, Until Shiloh [the One to Whom it belongs] comes; And to Him shall be the obedience of the people.

Slide # 8 (Gilead, Manasseh, Ephraim, Judah)



9 Moab is My washpot; Over Edom I will cast My shoe; Over Philistia I will triumph.”

Moab, Edom, and Philistia historically were long-standing enemies of Israel, but here we see they are destined to denigrating roles.

When God says, “Moab is My washpot,” He is saying that Moab will be humbled and used for humble service like a pot for washing feet.

When He says He will cast His shoe over Edom, it was a way of claiming possession and authority over them.

It symbolized taking control over and reducing them to a position of servitude.

Both Moab and Edom were known for their great pride so God is saying He is going to humble them and put them in a subservient role (cf. Isa. 16:6; Obadiah 1:3).

God ultimately will triumph over Philistia, the bitter enemy of Israel.

Slide # 9



10 Who will bring me into the strong city? Who will lead me to Edom?

At this point, David asks the rhetorical questions: “Who will bring me into the strong city? Who will lead me to Edom?”

Petra was the capital city of Edom and was known as being in accessible and impregnable. It is the “strong city” in view. To enter Edom and overtake the strong city was a daunting challenge. But ultimately, we know the Messiah will use this area as a refuge for His people and, at His Second Coming, will destroy the forces of Antichrist, attempting to attack them.

Slide # 10

Isaiah 63:1–3 (NKJV)

1 Who is this who comes from Edom, With dyed garments from Bozrah, This One who is glorious in His apparel, Traveling in the greatness of His strength?— “I who speak in righteousness, mighty to save.”

2 Why is Your apparel red, And Your garments like one who treads in the winepress?

3 “I have trodden the winepress alone, And from the peoples no one was with Me. For I have trodden them in My anger, And trampled them in My fury; Their blood is sprinkled upon My garments, And I have stained all My robes.”

11 Is it not You, O God, who cast us off? And You, O God, who did not go out with our armies?

Who gives victory in regard to Edom? It will ultimately be Messiah-God!

But David bemoans the fact that in the recent past, Israel has been cast off by God, in that they suffered military losses. What the exact occasion was, we are not told.

But David is confident that this is not the end of the story! And so he prays...

12 Give us help from trouble, For the help of man is useless.

David asks God for help, knowing that the help of man is useless. David recognized their absolute dependence upon God.

“We ought to pray with all the more confidence in God when our confidence in man is altogether gone. When the help of man is vain, we shall not find it vain to seek the help of God.” -**Charles Spurgeon**

David knew that God was sovereign over all, and that ultimately it is God who determines how things go.

In view of all that he knew about the character of God, about the promises of God, he spoke with confidence...

13 Through God we will do valiantly, For it is He who shall tread down our enemies.

Note the beautiful balance here and yet the emphasis is on dependence upon God. David says, “Through God we will do.” God does it. God gives the help, and yet that doesn’t negate human action or human responsibility.

Through God we will do valiantly, and yet it is God who shall tread down our enemies. God does it, and yet we are involved in the process.

“Divine working is not an argument for human inaction, but rather it is the best excitement for courageous effort.” - **Charles Spurgeon**

Slide # 11

Philippians 4:13 (NKJV)

13 I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

2 Timothy 2:1 (NKJV)

1 You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.

David's formula was simple. Without God, they could do nothing. With and through God, they could win great victories and accomplish great things. – **David Guzik**

The place of God's people is to praise God, to pray in dependence upon Him, and then act in keeping with His leading.

In 1st Samuel 17:47 David said, "the battle is the LORD's", but then in the next verse it says, "David hurried and ran toward the army to meet the Philistine."

Yes, "Through God we will do valiantly." God wants us to use us greatly as we prayerfully depend on Him!

But here is the secret. Today, in the Church Age, the issue is not about physical battles; it's not about physical battles over a physical land. No, it's about spiritual battles, it's about putting Christ on display, no matter how great the challenge. As Paul says...

2 Corinthians 10:4 (NKJV)

4 For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds,

Our weapons are dependence upon God, faith, prayer, love, God's truth, walking in the power of the Spirit, bearing the fruit of the Spirit!

With this in mind, let us apply...

"Through God we will do valiantly!"

2 Corinthians 2:14 (NKJV)

14 Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us diffuses the fragrance of His knowledge in every place.

2 Corinthians 3:5–6 (NKJV)

5 Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think of anything as being from ourselves, but our sufficiency is from God,

6 who also made us sufficient as ministers of the new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.

John 15:5 (NKJV)

5 "I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.

With David, let us prioritize PRAISE to God, focusing on His immeasurable faithfulness, His love that delivers His own, and the holiness of what He has spoken that will certainly be fulfilled just exactly as He has promised.

As Ruth Bell Graham famously said: *"Quit studying the problems and start studying the promises."*

"Through God we will do valiantly!"