

Psalm 108 (1-13) – Hear Me & Help Us

Sometimes there are seasons where many in our families or in a congregation are dealing with the same types of problems; it seems as if the attack has been intensified in a particular area. As a parent, family member, friend, church member or leader, we have many things we can and should do, but sometimes we need special seasons of seeking God on the behalf of others. In this Psalm, David is speaking to God and to people about his prayer and praise for their blessings of and for deliverance. He is saying, “Lord, your people need your help! People, the Lord will be your help!” The vs.1-5 come from Psalm 57:7-11, and vs.6-13 are taken from Psalm 60:5-12. Sometimes we seem to need to praise first, and sometimes we may seem to need to pray first. Here David is giving us praise first, but it all fits together (cf. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18).

Vs.1-4 – I will praise you, Lord! His resolutions (vs.1-3) and his reasons (vs.4)

- Vs.1 – I am purposeful, persevering, and passionate. All his best is going into this.
- Vs.2 – Some see this as time of day and others as time of deliverance. Either way, David is going to prioritize the practice of praising God with all his might (cf. Isaiah 62:6-7).
- Vs.3 – thankful to you in private conversations, proud of you in public situations.
- Vs.4 – He praises because God is loving and faithful. He sings of mercy and grace.

Vs.5-6 – Let us see you, Lord! His requests (vs.5) and reasons (vs.6)

- Vs.5 – Let your radiance be revealed, let your righteousness prevail
- Vs.6 – Let my prayer avail (James 5:16), so your people will have redemption and results

Vs.7-9 – We know your promises, Lord!

- Vs.7a – We know you are as good as your Word (Psalm 138:2)
- Vs.7b-c – gladly you will bring victory at home and abroad
- Vs.8 – the beloved of God will be put in their proper place
- Vs.9 – the enemies of God will also be put in their proper place

Vs.10-11 – We need you now, Lord!

- Vs.10 – we need your personal, specific deliverance. Edom represents a fortified foe of God’s people, proud against us (Obadiah). The world, the flesh, and the devil fit the bill.
- Vs.11 – I may be covered by clouds but I will look to you, a season of silence from God means I cannot be silent before God (Psalm 37:5, 119:126)

Vs.12-13 – We are confident in you, Lord!

- Vs.12 – This is not a call to abandon people and their help, God’s touch can come through God’s people, but we are not to rely on material means alone. Temporary resources yield temporary results, so we must have the divine dynamic at work or our work is in vain (Psalm 127:1 / 1 Corinthians 15:58).
- Vs.13 – This is about practice; the best prayers have legs (Proverbs 21:31). This is about faithfully giving God the glory, it is we but He – we are the instruments. Grace is opposed to merit, but not opposed to effort (Titus 2:11-14). Will we be vain or valiant?

God’s eternal power and purpose in giving us grace is the reason you can act in faith right now. Let’s praise His name and pray for one another like never before, and we will see Him act.