

Psalm 108

Morning Prayer Wednesday Week 4

The first part of Psalm 108 is taken from Psalm 57:7-11, and the second part from Psalm 60:5-12. This gives us an idea how psalms were 'up-dated'. In this case we see how faithful the authors were to their sources. Psalm 108 seems to belong to the Persian period when Judah, along with her neighbours, was part of a Persian province ('satrapy'). Praying this psalm as Christians we might reflect upon the Church as the especially loved (verse 6) Spouse of Christ, redeemed by his love. The title reads: 'A Song. A Psalm* of David.'

Part One. A hymn of praise of God (= Psalm 57:7-11)

See Psalm 57:7-11 for a commentary

¹My heart* is steadfast, O God, my heart is steadfast;
I will sing and make melody.
Awake, my soul!

²Awake, O harp and lyre! I will awake the dawn.

³I will give thanks to you, YHWH*, among the peoples,

Psalm 57:9 has 'Lord' ('ādōnāy), not YHWH

and I will make melody to you among the nations.

⁴For your kindness* is as high as the heavens,
your faithfulness extends to the clouds.

⁵Rise up, O God, above the heavens.
Let your glory fill the earth.

Part Two. A supplication (= Psalm 60:5-12)

See Psalm 60:5-12 for a commentary and a map

⁶Give victory* with your right hand,
that those whom you love may be rescued. Answer us!

⁷God has spoken in his sanctuary [or 'by his holiness']:
'In triumph I will divide up Shechem,
and portion out the Vale of Succoth.

⁸Gilead is mine, Manasseh is mine;
Ephraim is my helmet; Judah my commander's staff.

⁹Moab is my washbasin; on Edom I plant my shoe;
Against me, Philistia, hurl forth a war cry if you dare!

¹⁰Who will bring me to the fortified city? Who will lead me to Edom?

¹¹Have you not rejected us, O God?

O God, you do not go out with our armies.

¹²O grant us help against the foe, for human help* is worthless.

¹³With God we shall do valiantly;
it is he who will tread down our foes.