

To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David. A Song.

¹Let God arise,
Let His enemies be scattered;
Let those also who hate Him flee before Him.

²As smoke is driven away,
So drive *them* away;
As wax melts before the fire,
So let the wicked perish at the presence of God.

³But let the righteous be glad;
Let them rejoice before God;
Yes, let them rejoice exceedingly.

⁴Sing to God, sing praises to His name;
Extol Him who rides on the clouds,
By His name YAH,
And rejoice before Him.

⁵A father of the fatherless, a defender of widows,
Is God in His holy habitation.

⁶God sets the solitary in families;
He brings out those who are bound into prosperity;
But the rebellious dwell in a dry *land*.

⁷O God, when You went out before Your people,
When You marched through the wilderness, *Selah*

⁸The earth shook;
The heavens also dropped *rain* at the presence of God;
Sinai itself *was moved* at the presence of God, the God of Israel.

⁹You, O God, sent a plentiful rain,
Whereby You confirmed Your inheritance,
When it was weary.

¹⁰Your congregation dwelt in it;
You, O God, provided from Your goodness for the poor.

¹¹ The Lord gave the word;
Great *was* the company of those who proclaimed *it*:

¹² "Kings of armies flee, they flee,
And she who remains at home divides the spoil.

¹³ Though you lie down among the sheepfolds,
You will be like the wings of a dove covered with silver,
And her feathers with yellow gold."

¹⁴ When the Almighty scattered kings in it,
It was *white* as snow in Zalmon.

¹⁵ A mountain of God *is* the mountain of Bashan;
A mountain *of many* peaks *is* the mountain of Bashan.

¹⁶ Why do you fume with envy, you mountains of *many* peaks?
This is the mountain *which* God desires to dwell in;
Yes, the LORD will dwell *in it* forever.

¹⁷ The chariots of God *are* twenty thousand,
Even thousands of thousands;
The Lord is among them *as in* Sinai, in the Holy *Place*.

¹⁸ You have ascended on high,
You have led captivity captive;
You have received gifts among men,
Even *from* the rebellious,
That the LORD God might dwell *there*.

¹⁹ Blessed *be* the Lord,
Who daily loads us *with benefits*,
The God of our salvation! *Selah*

²⁰ Our God *is* the God of salvation;
And to GOD the Lord *belong* escapes from death.

²¹ But God will wound the head of His enemies,
The hairy scalp of the one who still goes on in his trespasses.

²² The Lord said, "I will bring back from Bashan,
I will bring *them* back from the depths of the sea,

²³ That your foot may crush *them* in blood,
And the tongues of your dogs *may have* their portion from *your* enemies."

²⁴ They have seen Your procession, O God,
The procession of my God, my King, into the sanctuary.

²⁵ The singers went before, the players on instruments *followed* after;
Among *them were* the maidens playing timbrels.

²⁶ Bless God in the congregations,
The Lord, from the fountain of Israel.

²⁷ There *is* little Benjamin, their leader,
The princes of Judah *and* their company,
The princes of Zebulun *and* the princes of Naphtali.

²⁸ Your God has commanded your strength;
Strengthen, O God, what You have done for us.

²⁹ Because of Your temple at Jerusalem,
Kings will bring presents to You.

³⁰ Rebuke the beasts of the reeds,
The herd of bulls with the calves of the peoples,
Till everyone submits himself with pieces of silver.
Scatter the peoples *who* delight in war.

³¹ Envoys will come out of Egypt;
Ethiopia will quickly stretch out her hands to God.

³² Sing to God, you kingdoms of the earth;
Oh, sing praises to the Lord, *Selah*

³³ To Him who rides on the heaven of heavens, *which were* of old!
Indeed, He sends out His voice, a mighty voice.

³⁴ Ascribe strength to God;
His excellence *is* over Israel,
And His strength *is* in the clouds.

³⁵ O God, *You are* more awesome than Your holy places.
The God of Israel *is* He who gives strength and power to *His* people.
Blessed *be* God!

Psalms 68:1-35

1. The Presence of God

a) In the context of enemies

*¹Let God arise,
Let His enemies be scattered;
Let those also who hate Him flee before Him.*

*²As smoke is driven away,
So drive them away;
As wax melts before the fire,
So let the wicked perish at the presence of God. Psalm 68:1-2*

i) Scattering of Enemies

ii) Fleeing of those who hate the LORD

iii) Perishing of the wicked

b) In the context of the righteous

*³But let the righteous be glad;
Let them rejoice before God;
Yes, let them rejoice exceedingly.*

*⁴Sing to God, sing praises to His name;
Extol Him who rides on the clouds,
By His name YAH,
And rejoice before Him. Psalm 68:3-4*

i) Gladness of heart

ii) Rejoicing before God exceedingly

iii) Singing to the LORD

iv) Extolling Him

v) Meditating on His name YAH

c) In the context of His manifestation to His people

i) Remembering God's Presence with Israel in the wilderness

*O God, when You went out before Your people,
When You marched through the wilderness, Psalm 68:7*

ii) Remembering God's Presence at Sinai (Exodus 19-20)

*The earth shook;
The heavens also dropped rain at the presence of God;
Sinai itself was moved at the presence of God, the God of Israel.*
Psalm 68:8

2. The Person of God

a) God as Father

*A father of the fatherless, a defender of widows,
Is God in His holy habitation.* Psalm 68:5

b) God's concern for the solitary

God sets the solitary in families; Psalm 68:6a

c) God's power manifested

i) He brings out those who are bound into prosperity;

ii) But the rebellious dwell in a dry land. Psalm 68:6b

3. The Provision of God

⁹ *You, O God, sent a plentiful rain,
Whereby You confirmed Your inheritance,
When it was weary.*

¹⁰ *Your congregation dwelt in it;
You, O God, provided from Your goodness for the poor.*

¹¹ *The Lord gave the word;
Great was the company of those who proclaimed it:* Psalm 68:9-11

a) Provision of needed rain

b) Confirmation of God's inheritance given (the land of Canaan)

c) Congregation of Israel dwelt in Canaan

d) Provision for the poor

e) Provision of God's word and its proclamation

4. The Protection of God

*¹² "Kings of armies flee, they flee,
And she who remains at home divides the spoil.*

*¹³ Though you lie down among the sheepfolds,
You will be like the wings of a dove covered with silver,
And her feathers with yellow gold."*

*¹⁴ When the Almighty scattered kings in it,
It was white as snow in Zalmon.* *Psalm 68:12-14*

- a) Many kings and armies attacked Israel
- b) But they failed when God defended/ protected His people
- c) Kings were scattered
- d) The spoils of war were plentiful
 - i) Silver
 - ii) Gold

5. The prerogative of God to choose Zion (Jerusalem)

*¹⁵ A mountain of God is the mountain of Bashan;
A mountain of many peaks is the mountain of Bashan.*

*¹⁶ Why do you fume with envy, you mountains of many peaks?
This is the mountain which God desires to dwell in;
Yes, the LORD will dwell in it forever.*

*¹⁷ The chariots of God are twenty thousand,
Even thousands of thousands;
The Lord is among them as in Sinai, in the Holy Place. Psalm 68:15-17*

- a) Zion is called "a mountain of God"
- b) Bashan is a mountain of many peaks
- c) God chose to dwell in Zion to the anger of Bashan
- d) God protects Zion with thousands of chariots
- e) It is the prerogative of God to choose Zion