

Psalm 060 - Michtam Psalm: David's Victory Over the Edomites; God Will Deliver the Remnant

Ps 60 is the last of the Michtam psalms and describes the time David was victorious over his enemies, the Edomites. The Edomites were soundly defeated and never rallied after that. Prophetically it can be viewed as a picture of the deliverance God will give to His people, the Remnant of Israel, after the suffering of the Great Tribulation.

Historical Background

David was winning battles and making a name for himself (2 Sam 8:1-14; 10:6-8; 1 Chr 18:1-13; 19:6-19). While fighting the Arameans (Syrians) up north, the Edomites attacked Israel from the south, doing great damage. David dispatched Joab with part of the army who defeated Edom in the Valley of Salt, south of the Dead Sea.

Psalm 60

[To the chief Musician upon Shushanedom, Michtam of David, to teach; when he strove with Aramnaharaim and with Aramzobah, when Joab returned, and smote of Edom in the valley of salt twelve thousand.]

A Prayer for God's Help against Adversaries

1 God, You have rejected us. You have broken us; You have been angry; restore us!
1 O God, You have rejected us. You have broken us; You have been angry; O, restore us.
1 God, you have cast us off; you have breached our defenses and you have become enraged. Return to us!
1 O God, thou hast cast us off, thou hast scattered us, thou hast been displeased; O turn thyself to us again.

- The plural pronouns indicate that David was speaking on behalf of the Israelites, who felt abandoned by God

2 You have made the land quake, You have split it open; Heal its cracks, for it sways.
2 You have made the land quake, You have split it open; Heal its breaches, for it totters.
2 You made the earth quake; you broke it open. Repair its fractures, because it has shifted.
2 Thou hast made the earth to tremble; thou hast broken it: heal the breaches thereof; for it shaketh.

3 You have made Your people experience hardship; You have given us wine to drink that makes us stagger.

3 You have made Your people experience hardship; You have given us wine to drink that makes us stagger.

3 You made your people go through hard times; you had us drink wine that makes us stagger.

3 Thou hast shewed thy people hard things: thou hast made us to drink the wine of astonishment.

4 You have given a banner to those who fear You, That it may be displayed because of the truth. *Selah*

4 You have given a banner to those who fear You, That it may be displayed because of the truth. *Selah*.

4 But you have given a banner to those who fear you, so they may display it in honor of truth.

4 Thou hast given a banner to them that fear thee, that it may be displayed because of the truth. *Selah*.

- Initially, they were stunned by the defeats in the south...

5 That Your beloved may be rescued, Save us with Your right hand, and answer us!

5 That Your beloved may be delivered, Save with Your right hand, and answer us!

5 So your loved ones may be delivered, save us by your power and answer us quickly!

5 That thy beloved may be delivered; save with thy right hand, and hear me.

6 God has spoken in His holiness: "I will triumph, I will divide up Shechem, and measure out the Valley of Succoth.

6 God has spoken in His holiness: "I will exult, I will portion out Shechem and measure out the valley of Succoth.

6 Then God spoke in his holiness, "I will rejoice— I will divide Shechem; I will portion out the Succoth Valley.

6 God hath spoken in his holiness; I will rejoice, I will divide Shechem, and mete out the valley of Succoth.

- Shechem was the chief city in Ephraim; and with Succoth, was located W of the Jordan River

— The patriarch Jacob was connected to both (Gen 33:17-18)

7 "Gilead is Mine, and Manasseh is Mine; Ephraim also is the helmet of My head; Judah is My scepter.

7 "Gilead is Mine, and Manasseh is Mine; Ephraim also is the helmet of My head; Judah is My scepter.

7 Gilead belongs to me, and Manasseh is mine. Ephraim is my helmet, and Judah my scepter.

7 Gilead is mine, and Manasseh is mine; Ephraim also is the strength of mine head; Judah is my lawgiver;

- Gilead was E of Jordan; Ephraim was a strong tribe, called "helmet." Judah was the royal tribe (Gen 49:10)

8 "Moab is My washbowl; I will throw My sandal over Edom; Shout loud, Philistia, because of Me!"

8 "Moab is My washbowl; Over Edom I shall throw My shoe; Shout loud, O Philistia, because of Me!"

8 Moab is my wash basin; over Edom I will throw my shoes; over Philistia I will celebrate my triumph."

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

9 Who will bring me into the besieged city? Who will lead me to Edom?

9 Who will bring me into the besieged city? Who will lead me to Edom?

9 Who will lead me to the fortified city? Who will lead me to Edom?

9 Who will bring me into the strong city? who will lead me into Edom?

10 Have You Yourself not rejected us, God? And will You not go out with our armies, God?

10 Have not You Yourself, O God, rejected us? And will You not go forth with our armies, O God?

10 Aren't you the one, God, who has cast us off? Didn't you refuse, God, to accompany our armies?

10 Wilt not thou, O God, which hadst cast us off? and thou, O God, which didst not go out with our armies?

11 Oh give us help against the enemy, For rescue by man is worthless.

11 O give us help against the adversary, For deliverance by man is in vain.

11 Help us in our distress, for human help is worthless.

11 Give us help from trouble: for vain is the help of man.

12 Through God we will do valiantly, And it is He who will trample down our enemies.
12 Through God we shall do valiantly, And it is He who will tread down our adversaries.
12 Through God we will fight valiantly; and it is he who will crush our enemies.
12 Through God we shall do valiantly: for he it is that shall tread down our enemies.