

Psalm 68

This Psalm is one of the most magnificent songs of triumph and praise in the whole Old Testament. Its dramatic commentary on the past history of Israel and the envisaged future, linked to the spirit of invincible faith in the Creator God make it an outstanding portion of scripture.

It was certainly first written to celebrate the returning of the ark from the House of Obed-Edom, [2 Samuel 6:11-15].

Yet it is applicable for any time when we wish to praise our Creator for what He has done in our lives and to express our faith in Him.

Psalms 68:5-6 [New King James] *“A father of the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in His holy habitation. God sets the solitary in families; He brings out those who are bound into prosperity; but the rebellious dwell in a dry land.”*

In every age the Creator God gives special attention to those in society who have the greatest needs.

As we read through this Psalm we are reminded of the many things we should be praising the great Creator God for, including our needs on a daily basis [Psalms 68:19] and for the future life that He only can provide, [Psalms 68:20].

Psalms 68:15-16 [New King James] *“A mountain of God is the mountain of Bashan; a mountain of many peaks is the mountain of Bashan. 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.”*

Bashan is the mountainous land northeast of Jerusalem that includes the awesome Mount Hermon, God’s choice of Mount Zion, a foothill by comparison, for the site of the temple led the Psalmist to imagine the envy of the great when God chooses the small.

Mark 10:13-16 [New King James] *“Then they brought little children to Him, that He might touch them; but the disciples rebuked those who brought them. But when Jesus saw it, He was greatly displeased and said to them, ‘Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God. Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it.’ And He took them up in His arms, laid His hands on them, and blessed them.”*

Jesus Christ reminds us that is the humble childlike trust that we have to have to be an acceptable dwelling place for His Holy Spirit that is essential for entry into the Kingdom of God.

Psalms 68:18 [New King James] *“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.”*

This verse is quoted in Ephesians 4:7-8 referring to the ministers that the ascending Jesus Christ left behind on earth, also the victory parade after Jesus Christ’s victory over Satan and all the evil he has brought to society.

All of us who trust Jesus Christ as our leader, by following Him, can overcome the influence of Satan’s evil power.

Psalms 68:32-35 [New King James] *“Sing to God, you kingdoms of the earth; Oh, sing praises to the Lord, Selah. To Him who rides on the heaven of heavens, which were of old! Indeed, He sends out His voice, a mighty voice. Ascribe strength to God; His excellence is over Israel, and His strength is*

in the clouds. 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!"

The final praise to the Creator God is yet future after the Second Coming of Jesus Christ to rule all the earth from His sanctuary in Jerusalem.

When we consider, prompted by this Psalm, all that God has done for us, we should feel an overwhelming sense of awe as we kneel before Him in prayer and praise.

The physical creation all about us gives us a clear picture of God's wonderful power and wisdom, [Romans 1:18-21]. The vastness of the universe leaves us without words adequate to declare the power and majesty of the Creator God we should be worshipping.

How wonderful it is that a Creator God with such wisdom and power has such love and care for all human beings who are created out of dust and whose existence is totally dependent on Him, [Colossians 1:12-17].