

The Psalm Project

Discovering the Spiritual World through the Psalms

Psalm 138

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The Goal of this project:

This research project will examine the 150 psalms for the spiritual awareness each Psalm offers. Each Psalm will be examined by its language and the commentary of the Sages. The spiritual awareness analysis will be done in alignment with Ari's definition of the Tree of life, the Book of Creation, and the Zohar. Each verse of the Psalm will be rewritten using the intent of the language and spiritual commentary to convey its spiritual lesson.

The Main Resources:

The Zohar

The Book of Creation

Ari's writing on the Tree of Life and the Ten Sefirot

The Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament

Samson Hirsch's commentary on the Psalms

Tehillim – Psalms – A new translation with a commentary anthologized from the Talmudic and rabbinic sources

Accordance Bible Software

Psalm 138

New American Standard 1995

Psa. 138:0 A Psalm of David.

Psa. 138:1 "I will give You thanks with all my heart;

I will sing praises to You before the ^bgods.

² I will bow down ^atoward Your holy temple

And ^bgive thanks to Your name for Your lovingkindness and Your ¹truth;

For You have 'magnified Your ²word ³according to all Your name.

On the day I "called, You answered me;

You made me bold with ^bstrength in my soul.

Psa. 138:4 "All the kings of the earth will give thanks to You, O LORD,

When they have heard the words of Your mouth.

⁵ And they will ^asing of the ways of the LORD,

For ^bgreat is the glory of the LORD.

For "though the LORD is exalted, Yet He bregards the lowly,

But the 'haughty He knows from afar.

Psa. 138:7 Though I "walk in the midst of trouble, You will ^{1b}revive me;

You will 'stretch forth Your hand against the wrath of my enemies,

And Your right hand will dsave me.

Hebrew

138:1 אוֹדְךָּ בְּכָל-לְבֵּי נָגֶּר אֶלְהִים אֲזַמְּרֶךָ: ² אֶשְׁתַּחֲלֶּה אֶל-הִיכֶּל קְרִשְׁדְ וְאֵנְרָה אֶת-שְׁמֶּךְ עַל-חַסְּדְךָּ וְעַל-בְּיִוֹם אֶרֶאתִי וְתַּעֲגֵנִי תַּרְהבָנִי בְנַפְשֵׁי עְז: ⁴ יוֹדִוּדְ יְהוָה פָּל-מַלְכֵי-אָבֶץ כִּי שְׁמְעׁוּ אִמְרֵי יִהְוָה: ⁴ כִּי-רָם יֻהוָה וְשָׁבְּל יִרְאָה וְגָבֹה יִמִינֶדְי עַל אַךְ אִיְבִי תִּשְׁלֵח יָבֶדְ וְהָוֹשִׁיעֵנִי מְמֶּרְחֵק יְיִבֶע: ¹ אִם-אֵלֶך וּבְּאָה וְגָבֹה יְמִינֶךְ: ⁴ יְהוָה יִגְלָה בַּעֲרִי יְהוָה חַסְּדְּךָּ לְעוֹלֶלֶם מִעֲשֵׂי יָבֶיִדְ אֵל-תֶּבֶרְי: יְהוָה חַסְּדְּךָּ לְעוֹלֶלֶם מִעֲשֵׂי יָבֶיִדְ אֵל-תֶּבֶרְי:

8 The LORD will "accomplish what
concerns me;
Your ^b lovingkindness, O LORD, is
everlasting;
Do not forsake the dworks of Your
hands.

References

Psalm 138:1

^aPs 111:1

^bPs 95:3; 96:4; 97:7

Psalm 138:2

¹Or faithfulness

²Or promise

³Or together with

^a1 Kin 8:29; Ps 5:7; 28:2

^bPs 140:13

^cIs 42:21

Psalm 138:3

^aPs 118:5

^bPs 28:7; 46:1

Psalm 138:4

^aPs 72:11; 102:15

Psalm 138:5

^aPs 145:7

^bPs 21:5

Psalm 138:6

^aPs 113:4-7

^bProv 3:34; Is 57:15; Luke 1:48; James 4:6; 1 Pet 5:5

^ePs 40:4; 101:5

Psalm 138:7

¹Or keep me alive

^aPs 23:4; 143:11

^bEzra 9:8, 9; Ps 71:20; Is 57:15

Ex 7:5; 15:12; Is 5:25; Jer 51:25; Ezek 6:14; 25:13

^dPs 20:6; 60:5

Psalm 138:8

^aPs 57:2; Phil 1:6

^bPs 136:1

Job 10:8; Ps 27:9; 71:9; 119:8

^dJob 10:3; 14:15; Ps 100:3

Targum

Psa. 138:1 Composed by David. I will give thanks in your presence, O LORD, with all my heart; before the judges I will sing to you. ² I will bow down before your temple, and I will confess your name, because of your goodness and because of your truth; for you have magnified over every name of yours the utterance of your praise. ³ In the day that I call, answer me; you have magnified strength in my soul. ⁴ All the kings of the earth will give thanks in your presence, O LORD, for they have heard the utterance of your praise. ⁵ And they will sing praise on the pathways of the LORD, for great is the glory of the LORD. ⁶ For exalted is the LORD, but he will look on the humble for good; but he will humble the proud from heaven afar. ⁷ If I walk in the midst of trouble, you will keep me alive; you will stretch forth your hand against the nostrils of my enemies to destroy them, and your right hand will redeem me. ⁸ The LORD will pay them back evil on my account; O LORD, your goodness is forever, you will not forsake the works of your hands.

Spiritual Awareness

Introduction

This Psalm captures the triumphant spirits that will pervade the nation when the Messianic age comes. The enemies of Israel will be removed by the LORD.

Notes on this Psalm

Imagine a world where every person lives by the Laws of the LORD. Peace and tranquility would be the mainstay of the people. That day will come when the Messiah comes, and the Messianic age begins. The author calls upon the Sefirah Chesed to send the LORD's lovingkindness to start the Messianic age.

Appendix







