

Desperate Times Produce Desperate Prayers

Psalm 60 (page 417 in the black Bibles)

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Main point: When in the midst of desperate circumstances the child of God is encouraged to desperately pray while remembering who God is and the promises He has made.

Context:

For the choir director; according to Shushan Eduth. A Mikhtam of David, to teach; when he struggled with Aram-naharaim and with Aram-zobah, and Joab returned, and smote twelve thousand of Edom in the Valley of Salt.

2 Samuel 8; 1Chronicles 18

Psalm 60 tells us that not everything went as smoothly in David's military conquest as 2 Samuel and 1 Chronicles indicates.

Lament & Requests: (vv. 1-4)

¹O God,

You have rejected us.
You have broken us;
You have been angry;

O, restore us.

²You have made the land quake,
You have split it open;

Heal its breaches, for it totters.

³You have made Your people experience hardship;

You have given us wine to drink that makes us stagger.

⁴You have given a banner to those who fear You,

That it may be displayed because of the truth. Selah
That they may flee to it from the bow. (ESV)

Remembering God and His Word: (vv. 5-8)

Compare Psalms 60:5-12 & 108:5-13

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

God's sovereignty and His promises to His people are emphasized

⁶God has spoken in His holiness:

"I will exult,
I will portion out Shechem and
measure out the valley of Succoth.

⁷"Gilead is Mine,
and Manasseh is Mine;

Ephraim also is the helmet of My head;

Judah is My scepter.

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

Renewed Confidence: (vv. 9-12)

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

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

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

¹²Through God we shall do valiantly,
And it is He who will tread down our adversaries.

Application:

While we are not facing the same circumstances that David faced in Psalm we can learn things about God.

God is sovereign over all things.

God keeps His word.

Matthew 16:18

We should also be praying with the same intensity that we see in Psalm 60 because we are have an adversary who is against us and against the Lord's Church.

1 Peter 5:8ff

Ephesians 6:10-18

2 Corinthians 10:3-5