

A Study of the Psalms

Psalm 137 - 138

Psalm 137:1-3

Psalm 137

- A Hymn of the Exiles in Babylon.
 - Their present plight. vs 1-3

Some scholars suggest this psalm was written post exile based on the past tense in verse 1.

Psalm 137

- 1 By the rivers of Babylon, There we sat down, yea, we wept When we remembered Zion.
- 2 We hung our harps Upon the willows in the midst of it.
- 3 For there those who carried us away captive asked of us a song, And those who plundered us requested mirth, Saying, "Sing us one of the songs of Zion!"

Psalm 137

- A Hymn of the Exiles in Babylon.
 - *Their present plight. vs 1-3*
 - Their remembrance of Zion. vs 4-6

Psalm 137

- 4 How shall we sing the LORD's song In a foreign land?
- 5 If I forget you, O Jerusalem, Let my right hand forget its skill! ***playing the harp**
- 6 If I do not remember you, Let my tongue cling to the roof of my mouth ***unable to sing**—If I do not exalt Jerusalem Above my chief joy.

Psalm 137

- A Hymn of the Exiles in Babylon.
 - *Their present plight. vs 1-3*
 - *Their remembrance of Zion. vs 4-6*
 - Their cry for vengeance. vs 7-9

Psalm 137

7 Remember, O LORD, against the sons of Edom The day of Jerusalem, Who said, “Raze it, raze it, To its very foundation!”

See Obadiah 1:10-14

8 O daughter of Babylon, who are to be destroyed, Happy the one who repays you as you have served us!

9 Happy the one who takes and dashes Your little ones against the rock! *Conquests: 2 Kings 8:12; Hos 10:14*
Fell on Babylon. Isa 47:1-9

Psalm 138

- The Lord the Faithful God.
 - David's acknowledgment of God's faithfulness.
vs 1-3

Psalm 138 – 145 are the final collection of psalms attributed to David.

Psalm 138

1 I will praise You with my whole heart;
Before the gods* I will sing praises to You.

**or angels (Greek Septuagint)*

2 I will worship toward Your holy temple, And
praise Your name For Your lovingkindness
and Your truth; For You have magnified
Your word above all Your name.

3 In the day when I cried out, You answered
me, And made me bold with strength in my
soul.

Psalm 138

- The Lord the Faithful God.
 - *David's acknowledgment of God's faithfulness.*
vs 1-3
 - All the kings shall praise the Lord. vs 4-6

Psalm 138

- 4 All the kings of the earth shall praise You, O LORD, When they hear the words of Your mouth.
- 5 Yes, they shall sing of the ways of the LORD, For great is the glory of the LORD.
- 6 Though the LORD is on high, Yet He regards the lowly; But the proud He knows from afar.

Psalm 138

- The Lord the Faithful God.
 - *David's acknowledgment of God's faithfulness. vs 1-3*
 - *All the kings shall praise the Lord. vs 4-6*
 - David's confidence in God's faithfulness. vs 7-8

Psalm 138

- 7 Though I walk in the midst of trouble, You will revive me; You will stretch out Your hand Against the wrath of my enemies, And Your right hand will save me.
- 8 The LORD will perfect that which concerns me; Your mercy, O LORD, endures forever; Do not forsake the works of Your hands.