

## The Defeated Man

Jesus in the Psalms

*Psalm 60*

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### I. Dealing with Defeat

This psalm teaches us how to respond to \_\_\_\_\_ for the kingdom of Christ. Like His father David, Jesus has been seated upon His throne. But there is still work for Him to do. His Israel, the Church of the Living God, is surrounded by enemies. Oftentimes these enemies experience momentary victories and God's people suffer defeats. So how ought we to respond to such defeats?

### II. The Defeated Man

#### A. Title and Setting (cf. 2 Sam 8:1-14; 1 Chr 18:1-13)

*To the Chief Musician. Set to "Lily of the Testimony." A Michtam of David. For Teaching. When He Fought Against Mesopotamia and Syria of Zobah, and Joab Returned and Killed Twelve Thousand Edomites in the Valley of Salt.*

#### B. First Stanza: Restore us, O Lord! (1-5)

<sup>1</sup>O God, You have cast us off; You have broken us down; You have been displeased; Oh, restore us again! <sup>2</sup>You have made the earth tremble; You have broken it; Heal its breaches, for it is shaking. <sup>3</sup>You have shown Your people hard things; You have made us drink the wine of confusion. <sup>4</sup>You have given a banner to those who fear You, That it may be displayed because of the truth. Selah <sup>5</sup>That Your beloved may be delivered, Save with Your right hand, and hear me.

#### C. Second Stanza: Remember your promise, O Lord! (6-8)

<sup>6</sup>God has spoken in His holiness: "I will rejoice; I will divide Shechem And measure out the Valley of Succoth. <sup>7</sup>Gilead is Mine, and Manasseh is Mine; Ephraim also is the helmet for My head; Judah is My lawgiver. <sup>8</sup>Moab is My washpot; Over Edom I will cast My shoe; Philistia, shout in triumph because of Me."

#### D. Final Stanza: Grant us victory, O Lord! (9-12)

<sup>9</sup>Who will bring me to the strong city? Who will lead me to Edom? <sup>10</sup>Is it not You, O God, who cast us off? And You, O God, who did not go out with our armies? <sup>11</sup>Give us help from trouble, For the help of man is useless. <sup>12</sup>Through God we will do valiantly, For it is He who shall tread down our enemies.

### III. How ought we to respond to defeat?

#### A. Acknowledge God's Sovereign Will and Cry Out for Restoration and Help

David teaches us that whatever else has led to the defeat, the setback comes ultimately from God and is a just consequence of our many sins. \_\_\_\_\_ for the kingdom of God mysteriously come from the hand of God Himself:

<sup>1</sup>O God, You have cast us off; You have broken us down; You have been displeased; Oh, restore us again! <sup>2</sup>You have made the earth tremble; You have broken it; Heal its breaches, for it is shaking. <sup>3</sup>You have shown Your people hard things; You have made us drink the wine of confusion... <sup>9</sup>Who will bring me to the strong city? Who will lead me to Edom? <sup>10</sup>Is it not You, O God, who cast us off? And You, O God, who did not go out with our armies?

The first thing we are to do when facing defeat is to acknowledge that God is the Lord. He is in \_\_\_\_\_. He has some good reason for handing us over to defeat.

#### B. Recount God's Promise of Ultimate Victory (cf. Mt 5:5)

Second, David teaches us to recount God's promises of ultimate victory. Defeat is not a pleasurable experience. But even in defeat we are not bereft of comfort. Notice David's confidence in verses 4-5:

<sup>4</sup>You have given a banner to those who fear You, That it may be displayed because of the truth. Selah <sup>5</sup>That Your beloved may be delivered, Save with Your right hand, and hear me.

In the midst of his lament, David remembers God's promise, God's *truth*: God has given us a *banner* to which we may rally as God's people. That banner is our King, \_\_\_\_\_. He is our Greater David. He is seated upon the throne of His father David. No one can dislodge Him from there or threaten His righteous and holy reign (cf. Ps 2:6). And God the Father has promised Him victory over His foes:

<sup>6</sup>God has spoken in His holiness: "I will rejoice; I will divide Shechem And measure out the Valley of Succoth. <sup>7</sup>Gilead is Mine, and Manasseh is Mine; Ephraim also is the helmet for My head; Judah is My lawgiver. <sup>8</sup>Moab is My washpot; Over Edom I will cast My shoe; Philistia, shout in triumph because of Me."

Though we may lose many battles, we are promised victory in the \_\_\_\_\_. Defeats for the people of God are always temporary (cf. Is 42:4; Mt 12:20; 1 Cor 15:25). As ferocious as God's enemies are, Christ is greater than them all.

#### C. Acknowledge Our Dependence and Pray for Victory in Faith (2 Cor 4:7-12)

The same God who has handed us over \_\_\_\_\_ *defeat* is the One who can deliver us \_\_\_\_\_ *defeat*. Though defeats are not pleasant, they remind us that *we cannot achieve victory by our own wisdom, power, or plans*. We are wholly and completely dependent upon the Lord. Paul writes:

<sup>7</sup>But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us. <sup>8</sup>We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; <sup>9</sup>persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed—<sup>10</sup>always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body. <sup>11</sup>For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus' sake, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. (2 Cor 4:7-12)

### IV. Conclusion