

## LESSON 8 – GOD ACCOMPLISHES WHAT CONCERNS YOU

### MAY 24, 2020

**Background Scripture: Psalm 138**

**Lesson Passage: Psalm 138:1-8 (NASB)**

**Introduction:** Have you ever wondered what might become of you? We don't know our future. Things don't turn out the way we envisioned them. Life has so many unforeseen complications. We just didn't think life would be this way. It's tough. Will we ever make it to heaven? David was a man who walked through trouble on a regular basis. His psalms express the struggles and disappointments he faced, yet in the end, he always turned his focus back to God. The key to his victorious attitude was his strong faith in the Lord.

King David had many troubles. Through it all he trusted in God's Word to lead him, even when things looked like God had forsaken him. Because David fully trusted the holiness and love of God, he praised God for all the marvelous things He had done. David knew God's Word was truth and that God would keep His promises.

**Scripture Reference: Psalm 138:1-8 (NASB)**

*1 I will give You thanks with all my heart; I will sing praises to You before the gods. 2 I will bow down toward Your holy temple And give thanks to Your name for Your lovingkindness and Your truth; For You have magnified Your word according to all Your name. 3 On the day I called, You answered me; You made me bold with strength in my soul. 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 sing of the ways of the Lord, For great is the glory of the Lord. 6 For though the Lord is exalted, Yet He regards the lowly, But the haughty He knows from afar. 7 Though I walk in the midst of trouble, You will revive me; You will stretch forth Your hand against the wrath of my enemies, And Your right hand will save me. 8 The Lord will accomplish what concerns me; Your lovingkindness, O Lord, is everlasting; Do not forsake the works of Your hands.*

**Memory Verse:** *8 The Lord will accomplish what concerns me; Your lovingkindness, O Lord, is everlasting; Do not forsake the works of Your hands (Psalm 138:8) NASB*

**Topic Explored:** *“God Accomplishes What Concerns You”* ~ The Lord empowers us to fulfil our purpose. He declares our purpose to us, but we cannot fulfil it on our own. There is no way we are going to accomplish it without Him. It will be helpful if we realized that early enough. So, you could say this, along with David: *“The Lord will bring to completion and finish that which concerns me. He will satisfy the necessary conditions or requirements of that which concerns me.”*

**Lesson Focus: Psalm 138:1-8 (NASB)**

**Verses 1, 2** ~ Here is David's proclamation that he will testify of the Lord among all audiences “Before the gods will I sing praise unto thee”, even those who reject God. Christians can be unashamed in their praise, because they exalt the only true and Living God. We see that the psalmist here is saying, I may be in an alien land, but I am not ashamed to praise my God. The

“gods” that he was going to sing praises before are the false gods of this evil land. His heart was so full of His God, that he would have praised the LORD, even if they had killed him for it

God’s latest revelation (“Your word”), exceeded all previous revelation about God. Amid trouble, David thanks God for His truth and His mercy rooted in His steadfast love for His people. God’s “Name” encompasses everything about God: all of His attributes, all His power, all His grace. His Word can be trusted.

Not that the prayer would be heard any better in the temple, but it reminded the psalmist of the times he had gone to the temple to pray. It helped the psalmist in remembering. It also helped him remember the blessings that the LORD had brought. God's lovingkindness was a pleasure to remember. It helped him remember that this captivity would pass away, if he kept the faith. In the Word of God, there is the promise of deliverance. The psalmist knows that God will deliver him, because His Word says so.

**Verses 3-4** ~ When in distress through Saul's persecution, he cried to the Lord, and he immediately answered him, and delivered him out of his troubles. And such immediate answers of prayer are to be remembered with thankfulness (Psalm 18:6). "And strengthens me with strength in my soul". The psalmist was filled with courage to withstand his enemies, and with strength to do the will and work of God (Ephesians 3:16). Many times, the answer to a prayer comes in our heart long before the answer becomes a reality. God answered this prayer immediately. The manifestation will come later.

Kings are elevated in this earth, but the way for them to come to the Lord is the same as for anyone else. Many times, it is harder for people who are thought of as something special on the earth, to humble themselves and come to God. It is very easy to get self-centered, if your peers have elevated you to stardom. There is a time when every eye shall see Him, and all will bow their knee to Him (Romans 14:11).

**Verses 5-6** ~ The glory of the Lord is shown in the works of creation, and in the person of Christ, and in the glorious work of redemption and salvation by Him; and will be shown by means of the Gospel throughout the earth in the latter day (Ephesians 1:17).

David sees himself as “the lowly” and his enemies as “the proud”. “The proud” distance themselves from God, believing they do not need Him. By necessity, God deals with them from “afar”; it is their choice. The “lowly” recognize their need. In times of humility, the Lord draws near. We have determined how difficult it is for the proud to humble themselves long enough to come unto the Lord. The humble, on the other hand, think of themselves in a different light. They seek the Savior, because they know that they have need to be saved. The proud are too proud to admit they need a Savior.

Trouble attends the best of men. Both outward and inward trouble, from sin, Satan, and the world. But the psalmist says that amidst all his troubles, God will support him under them, and make him cheerful and fearless. The Lord does by His gracious presence, by His love, and by the application of precious promises. He saved us from sin and death on the cross. He will still save us from harm.

**Verses 7-8** ~ David was confident in God's purpose. That's why he could say, "The Lord will accomplish what concerns me" (v. 8). The only way we can walk through trouble and not be defeated is by keeping our focus on the Lord and His purpose. He has promised to do a good work in our lives, but sometimes the only way He can complete it is in valleys of hardship.

He relied on the Lord's power. When troubles arise, we, too, can trust God to deliver us, but it may not be by escape. Sometimes He sustains us through the difficulty, walking with us every step of the way. David believed the promises of God. Throughout these two verses, he repeatedly reminds himself what the Lord will do. We also need to have some specific promises from Scripture that will anchor us in times of trouble. The truths of the Bible are our most valuable possession when the storms of life assail us. Self-reliance or advice from others will never equal the help God's Word offers us.

God assumes responsibility for accomplishing what concerns you in times of trouble. Your job is to believe that He will fulfill His purpose, His power is adequate, and He'll keep every promise. When the trial has achieved His goal, He'll remove it. Until then, keep walking with your eyes on Him.

**Let's talk about it. . .**

1. "I will praise thee with my whole \_\_\_\_\_".
2. What gods was he going to sing praises before of his God?  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. In the Word of God, there was a promise of \_\_\_\_\_.
4. What two things was he going to praise His name for? \_\_\_\_\_
5. In 138:3, where was he strengthened? \_\_\_\_\_
6. God hath respect for the \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Though I walk amid trouble, thou wilt \_\_\_\_\_ me.
8. How long does the Lord continue to work on us to perfect us?  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Making it personal:**

- What are those things that concern you, that are about you, about your life? Rest assured that God will settle them. He will settle you (1Peter 5:10). It may seem like you are in a time of trouble now, even confusion; not knowing what to do. But the Bible says that after you have suffered a while God will settle you, bring you to that place of rest.

**Closing Prayer:** *"Dear God, you know me better than I know myself. You know my fears and my desires, and I know You love me. I know you have a plan for me. Please, Lord, don't let my desires blind me to Your will. If this is not within Your plan for me, throw up a "brick wall". Give me an obstacle I cannot get past. Help me follow Your will, Father. Give me peace about whatever is to come. If this falls through, I will know it is Your hand. I ask this in Jesus' Name. Amen!"*