

Psalm 60

Introduction: the context.

- A. David has finally ascended the throne.
 - 1. We left David being pursued by Saul.
 - 2. Twice, David had Saul in his hand and refused to kill him.
 - a. Once in a cave (1 Sam. 24) and once in the wilderness at night (1 Sam. 26).
 - b. Saul repented each time, but later took up the pursuit again.
 - 3. There was the incident with Nabal, which gained him a wife and great wealth (1 Sam. 25).
 - 4. David once again took refuge among the Philistines (1 Sam. 27).
 - a. With his small army, he became an ally of Achish.
 - b. Fought Israel's enemies but reported it as fighting Israel.
 - c. Gained great favor with Achish.
 - 5. Saul's final battle.
 - a. Witch of Endor (1 Sam. 28).
 - b. David sent back (1 Sam. 29).
 - c. David fights the Amalekites (1 Sam. 30).
 - d. Saul and Jonathan killed.
 - 6. David crowned king of Judah (2 Sam. 2).
 - 7. War between the house of Saul (Ishbosheth) and David.
 - a. Abner vs. Joab.
 - b. Abner goes over to David.
 - c. Joab kills Abner.
 - d. Ishbosheth murdered.
 - 8. David crowned king over all Israel.
 - a. Age 30 at Hebron.
 - b. Age 37 over all of Israel.
- B. Victories.
 - 1. Over Jerusalem.
 - 2. Over the Philistines.
 - 3. The Ark brought to Jerusalem.
 - 4. The covenant from God.
 - 5. Various other battles.
 - a. Arameans.
 - b. Moabites.
 - c. Edomites.
 - d. Ammonites.

C. Setting for Psalm 60.

1. Had conquered in the south.
2. Was fighting in the north.
3. The Edomites re-invaded the unprotected south.

I. A complaint and a prayer (1-5).

- A. Defeat – seems that God has rejected David.
- B. A banner to which they can rally has been raised.
 1. God's promise to David (2 Sam. 7:9).
 2. God himself will intervene on behalf of those he loves.

II. A divine utterance (6-8).

- A. From the sanctuary.
- B. David will be totally victorious.
- C. The symbols in these verses.
 1. Shechem – a city of cis-Jordan.
 2. Valley of Succoth – trans-Jordan.
 3. Gilead – mountainous land in the north.
 4. Manasseh – in the north on both sides of the Jordan River.
 5. Ephraim and Judah – the whole south of Israel.
 6. Moab and Edom – south and east.
 7. Philistia – to the west.

III. A prayer of confidence (9-12).

- A. The help of man is worthless.
- B. God will bring the victory (cf. Ro. 8:28-39; Heb. 13:5-6).