

Shalom AZ Ministries

In Pursuit of Israel's Redemption



"In Our Weakness, His Strength is Displayed"

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Devotion and Discussion Questions

Key Texts (TLV): Ps. 68; 98; 8; 128; Num. 10:35; Matt. 21:15–16; 2 Cor. 12:9; Eph. 4:8; 6:12

We live in a world that celebrates strength. We admire those who seem to have everything together—those who are powerful, successful, confident, and capable. And whether we realize it or not, we often feel an internal pressure to present ourselves the same way. We don't want others to see our weaknesses or the places where we don't have all the answers. But throughout Scripture, we discover something remarkable about God: He often chooses the very people and places the world considers weak or insignificant to display His power and glory. As Paul writes in 2 Cor. 12:9, *"My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness."*

This is the beautiful picture that emerges from Psalms 68, 98, 8, and 128. We encounter the LORD as a mighty Warrior, a righteous King, and the God of our salvation. He rides through the wilderness, scatters His enemies, and shakes the heavens. Yet what makes His strength remarkable is how and for whom He exercises it. He comes to the aid of the fatherless, the widows, the lonely, and the weary. He establishes strength through the mouths of babies and toddlers. He chooses the seemingly insignificant to make His greatness known. **Our weakness is not an obstacle to His strength. It is often where His strength is most clearly displayed.**

1. THE MIGHTY WARRIOR COMES TO THE AID OF THE WEAK (PS. 68)

Psalm 68 is a victory song, a testimony of the God who moves on behalf of His people. It opens with the declaration, *"Let God arise! Let His enemies be scattered!"* (Ps. 68:2). These words take us back to Israel's journey through the wilderness, when Moses called upon ADONAI to arise and scatter those who opposed Him (Num. 10:35). The LORD comes riding through the desert as a mighty Warrior, and His enemies scatter like smoke or melt like wax before a fire. But who is this Warrior? What causes Him to arise and come riding to the rescue? Psalm 68:6 reveals His character: *"A father of orphans, defender of widows, is God in His holy dwelling."* Think about that! The God whose presence causes mountains to tremble is most at home being a Father to the fatherless and a defender of widows. His strength is directed toward rescuing those who cannot rescue themselves.

The psalm describes how God settles the lonely into families, leads prisoners into freedom, sustains the weary, and provides for the poor. When He gives the command, a company of women proclaims the Good News while mighty kings retreat. Those society overlooks become instruments of His victory. Even the impressive mountains of Bashan cannot compare with the seemingly insignificant mountain God chooses for His dwelling. His presence makes the difference, not the greatness of the mountain. David declares, *"Day by day He bears our burdens—the God of our salvation!"* (Ps. 68:20). He is the God of our rescues, our deliverances, our salvations. The God who rode through the wilderness still moves on behalf of those who trust Him. **We don't need to pretend we're strong enough. We need to recognize that He is our strength, and He is for us!**

2. HIS VICTORY REVEALS HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS AND FAITHFULNESS (PS. 98)

Psalm 98 continues this picture of the LORD as the victorious King, but draws our attention to the purpose of His victory. It begins, "*Sing to ADONAI a new song, for He has done marvelous things. His right hand and His holy arm have won victory for Him*" (Ps. 98:1). Notice who wins the victory. It is His right hand and His holy arm! Israel's story was never ultimately about the strength of the people, but the faithfulness of the God who rescued them. He delivered them from Egypt when they couldn't free themselves, led them through the wilderness, and sustained them when they were weary. Now His salvation is revealed before the nations. Psalm 98:3 reminds us that He remembers His lovingkindness—His *chesed*, His covenant love—and His faithfulness to the house of Israel. His promises have not failed, and His goodness becomes a testimony to all the earth.

The psalm calls all creation to rejoice. The sea roars, the rivers clap their hands, and the mountains sing—why? Because the King is coming! But why is His coming a reason for celebration? Because He comes to establish righteousness and justice. Psalm 98:9 declares, "*He will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with fairness.*" For those who oppose His character and oppress others, His coming is terrifying. But for those who submit to Him, it is a reason for joy. His judgments reveal His goodness and His commitment to making things right. Our hope is not in our ability to overcome every difficulty or fix everything ourselves. Our hope is in the righteous King who remains faithful to His promises. **His victory is our salvation, and His righteousness is our hope.**

3. HE ESTABLISHES HIS STRENGTH THROUGH THE SMALL AND HUMBLE (PS. 8; 128)

Psalm 8 gives us another remarkable picture of God's strength. David begins by declaring, "*ADONAI our Lord, how excellent is Your Name over all the earth!*" (Ps. 8:2). He considers the heavens, the moon, and the stars—the work of God's fingers—and reflects on the greatness of their Creator. Yet he makes this extraordinary declaration: "*Out of the mouths of babies and toddlers You established power*" (Ps. 8:3). Think about that! Where does God establish His power to silence the enemy? Through mighty warriors or influential rulers? No! Through babies and toddlers. Yeshua draws attention to this passage when children praise Him in the Temple (Matt. 21:15–16). David then asks, "*What is man that You are mindful of him? And the son of man that You care for him?*" (Ps. 8:5). The word translated "care for" is *paqad*, meaning to attend to, visit, or meet with someone. The Creator of the heavens actually attends to frail humanity! He remembers us, comes to us, and crowns humanity with glory and majesty.

Psalm 128 brings this truth into ordinary life: "*Happy is everyone in awe of ADONAI, who walks in His ways*" (Ps. 128:1). The blessing of the LORD is expressed not through worldly greatness, but through the life of someone who fears Him and walks in His ways. The psalm describes the labor of our hands, the fruitfulness of the home, children around the table, and the peace of Jerusalem. The LORD, whose majesty fills the heavens, is concerned with the ordinary details of our lives. He isn't looking for people who can impress Him with their greatness, but those who will walk humbly and trust Him. He chose Israel, a small people among the nations, to make His Name known. And He continues to choose the weak and overlooked to display His glory. **What makes us significant is not how strong we are, but the God who chooses to dwell with us and work through us.**

CONCLUSION

Throughout these Psalms, we encounter the same beautiful truth. The LORD is mighty in power, yet His heart is toward those who recognize their need for Him. He is the Warrior who rescues the weak, the King who establishes righteousness, and the Creator who reveals His strength through the smallest and most unlikely people. He chose Israel, a people small among the nations, to make Himself known. He established praise through children and gives strength to the weary. Through Messiah Yeshua, He has revealed the fullness of His saving power. Paul understood this when he declared that God's power is made perfect in weakness. When we come to the end of our own strength, we begin to recognize how sufficient His grace truly is.

Perhaps today you've been trying to hold everything together, convincing yourself and everyone around you that you've got things under control. But the LORD isn't asking you to pretend to be something you're not. He's inviting you to come in genuine humility, acknowledging your need for His presence, grace, and strength. **Lay down the burden of trying to be strong enough on your own.** Stop measuring your usefulness by your abilities or your worth by what the world considers impressive. Surrender the places where you've relied on yourself rather than trusting Him. If you've been walking in opposition to His ways, turn toward Him in repentance. Let Him be your deliverer, defender, and strength. The God who rode through the wilderness still rides. The God who rescued His people still rescues. **And in your weakness, His strength is displayed.**

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. In Psalm 68, the LORD is described as a mighty Warrior who is also a Father to the fatherless and defender of widows. What does this reveal about God's character and the purpose of His power?
2. Psalm 98 connects God's victory with His righteousness, justice, and covenant faithfulness. How does this change the way we understand His judgment and His coming kingdom?
3. Psalm 8 declares that God establishes strength through the mouths of babies and toddlers. Why do you think the LORD so often chooses the weak and seemingly insignificant to accomplish His purposes?
4. Where have you felt pressured to appear strong or in control? What would it look like to genuinely depend upon the LORD in those circumstances?
5. Psalm 128 describes the blessing of walking in awe of ADONAI in everyday life. How can you more intentionally demonstrate trust in His strength through your family, work, and daily responsibilities?

CLOSING PRAYER

Abba Father, we thank You for Your faithfulness and grace. You are the mighty God who rides through the wilderness, rescues the weak, defends the fatherless, and sustains the weary. Forgive us for the times we've tried to posture strength, pretending we have everything together and can accomplish everything on our own. Teach us to walk in genuine humility, recognizing our need for You. Help us trust Your faithfulness rather than our abilities, and let Your character shape our lives. Thank You that Your grace is sufficient and Your power is made perfect in weakness. May our lives become a testimony of Your goodness, deliverance, and strength, so that all the glory belongs to You.

B'Shem Yeshua, In the name of Yeshua, amen.