Psalm 138

"International Gratitude To Yahweh for His Ways and His Words"

(A Psalm of David.)

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A1 THE PSALMIST'S PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING 138:1-3

- **B1 His Resolve of Thanksgiving:** *{1}* I will give You thanks with all my heart;
- **B2** His Praise of Yahweh in Opposition to False Gods: I will sing praises to You before the gods.
- **B3** His Prostration before Yahweh: {2} I will bow down toward Your holy temple

B4 His Thanks to Yahweh's Name Representing His Ways

- C1 His Name: And give thanks to Your name
- C2 His Ways
 - D1 for Your lovingkindness
 - D2 and Your truth;
- **B5** Yahweh's Honoring of His Word Consistent with His Name: For You have magnified Your word according to all Your name.

B6 The Reason for the Psalmist's Thanks 138:3

- C1 Yahweh's Prompt Response to His Plea for Help: {3} On the day I called, You answered me;
- C2 Yahweh's Granting of Boldness: You made me bold with strength in my soul.

A2 THE MUSICAL GRATITUDE OF THE KINGS OF THE EARTH 138:4-5

B1 The Thanks of the Kings for Yahweh's Words 138:4

- C1 The Act of Thanksgiving: $\{4\}$ All the kings of the earth ¹ will give thanks to You, O LORD,
- C2 The Prompting of Thanksgiving: When they have heard the words of Your mouth.

B2 The Musical Worship of the Kings Concerning Yahweh's Ways 138:5

- C1 Their Song about Yahweh: {5} And they will sing of the ways of the LORD,
- C2 The Prompting of Worship: For great is the glory of the LORD.

A3 THE PSALMIST'S CONFIDENT CONTEMPLATION OF YAHWEH'S WAYS: HIS CARE FOR THE LOWLY AND OPPOSITION TOWARD HAUGHTY ENEMIES 138:6-8

B1 Yahweh's Preferential Treatment of the Lowly 138:6

- C1 Yahweh's Lofty Status: *{6}* For though the LORD is exalted,
- C2 His Perception of the Lowly: Yet He regards the lowly,
- C3 His Distance from the Haughty: But the haughty He knows from afar.

B2 The Psalmist's Assurance of Yahweh's Personal Support 138:7

- C1 His Contemplation of Trouble: *{7}* Though I walk in the midst of trouble,
- C2 Yahweh's Sustenance: You will revive me;
- C3 Yahweh's Opposition to His Enemies: You will stretch forth Your hand against the wrath of my enemies,
- C4 Yahweh's Salvation: And Your right hand will save me.

B3 The Psalmist's Confidence and Request 138:8

- C1 His Confidence in Yahweh
 - D1 In Yahweh's personal intervention on his behalf: {8} The LORD will accomplish what concerns me;
 - D2 In Yahweh's eternal loyal love: Your lovingkindness, O LORD, is everlasting;

¹ Psalm 138:4 - all the kings of the earth: One day all the kings of the earth will publicly sing praises to <u>Yahweh</u>! This will happen during the <u>Millennial</u> reign of Christ initially, (Zech. 14:9; Isa. 11:9; Hab. 2:14) and then throughout eternity in <u>New Jerusalem</u> (Rev. 21:24).

C2 His Plea for Continued Intervention: Do not forsake the works of Your hands.

Expanded Analysis of Psalm 138 Prepared by James T. Bartsch July, 2006, updated September 23, 2019

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