

Psalm 138 (NRSV)

Thanksgiving and Praise Of David

¹I give you thanks, O LORD, with my whole heart;

before the gods I sing your praise;

²I bow down towards your holy temple

and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your

faithfulness;

for you have exalted your name and your word

above everything.

³On the day I called, you answered me,

you increased my strength of soul.

⁴All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O LORD,

for they have heard the words of your mouth.

⁵They shall sing of the ways of the LORD,

for great is the glory of the LORD.

⁶For though the LORD is high, he regards the lowly;

but the haughty he perceives from far away.

⁷Though I walk in the midst of trouble,

you preserve me against the wrath of my enemies;

you stretch out your hand,

and your right hand delivers me.

⁸The LORD will fulfil his purpose for me;

your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever.

Do not forsake the work of your hands.

Isaiah 51:1-8 (NRSV)

Blessings in Store for God's People

¹Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness,
you that seek the LORD.

Look to the rock from which you were hewn,
and to the quarry from which you were dug.

²Look to Abraham your father
and to Sarah who bore you;
for he was but one when I called him,
but I blessed him and made him many.

³For the LORD will comfort Zion;
he will comfort all her waste places,
and will make her wilderness like Eden,
her desert like the garden of the LORD;
joy and gladness will be found in her,
thanksgiving and the voice of song.

⁴Listen to me, my people,
and give heed to me, my nation;
for a teaching will go out from me,
and my justice for a light to the peoples.

⁵I will bring near my deliverance swiftly,
my salvation has gone out
and my arms will rule the peoples;
the coastlands wait for me,
and for my arm they hope.

⁶Lift up your eyes to the heavens,
and look at the earth beneath;
for the heavens will vanish like smoke,
the earth will wear out like a garment,
and those who live on it will die like gnats;
but my salvation will be forever,
and my deliverance will never be ended.

⁷Listen to me, you who know righteousness,
you people who have my teaching in your hearts;
do not fear the reproach of others,
and do not be dismayed when they revile you.

⁸For the moth will eat them up like a garment,
and the worm will eat them like wool;
but my deliverance will be forever,
and my salvation to all generations.
