

Studies in Psalms by [John T Polk II](#)
For [The Fellowship Room](#)

Psalm 138

4/25/13

Psalm 138

God's Name Works

A Psalm of David that is so typical of David's other Psalms, full of praise to God.

Verses 1-2 God's Name is worshiped above all gods;

Verses 3-5 God's Name is glorified above all kings;

Verses 6-8: God's Name reaches to all people.

Verses 1-2: (Verse 1) Praise to God should include the "whole heart" out of which we "sing praises." David, with all the musical instruments introduced by him into worship, felt praise involved singing from the heart, in spite of others' "gods." In the New Testament, Christians should, "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord" ([Colossians 3:16](#)).

(Verse 2) What God has done in "lovingkindness" and "truth" distinguish Him above all.

Verses 3-5: (Verse 3) David's boldness came from God's answering His pleas. No proof of God's care is better than experience, and hindsight is always 20/20!

(Verse 4) "Kings of the earth" quickly learn Jehovah God is mightier than they are.

(Verse 5) When defeated, even they join in God's praises (Example [Daniel 4](#)).

Verses 6-8: (Verse 6) God never loses sight of, or sensitivity toward, "the lowly." No one is too minute or insignificant but that God will hear. But "the proud" God recognizes from "afar," that is, God doesn't need to have them close to know how to deal with them.

Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for 'God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble.' Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time. ([1 Peter 5:5-6](#))

(Verse 7) "In the midst of trouble" God "revives" (refreshes), extends a protecting "hand," offers His "right hand" to "save." Since Jesus said God is "spirit" ([John 4:24](#)) which has no "flesh and bones" ([Luke 24:39](#)), then all references to God's "body" of physical characteristics obviously are figures of speech designed to help us understand Him.

All Scriptures and comments are based on the New King James Version, unless otherwise noted.



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(Verse 8) God looks better to our cares than we can, which is why we should cast "all your care upon Him, for He cares for you" (**1 Peter 5:7**). He does this out of His "mercy" which "endures forever." "*Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, 'I will never leave you nor forsake you'*" (**Hebrews 13:5**).

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