

August 17, 2025

"The Anatomy of Courage" – Bobby Warrenburg

Psalm 108

<sup>1</sup> My heart, O God, is steadfast;

I will sing and make music with all my soul.

<sup>2</sup> Awake, harp and lyre!

I will awaken the dawn.

<sup>3</sup> I will praise you, Lord, among the nations;

I will sing of you among the peoples.

<sup>4</sup> For great is your love, higher than the heavens;

your faithfulness reaches to the skies.

<sup>5</sup> Be exalted, O God, above the heavens;

let your glory be over all the earth.

<sup>6</sup> Save us and help us with your right hand,

that those you love may be delivered.

<sup>7</sup> God has spoken from his sanctuary:

"In triumph I will parcel out Shechem  
and measure off the Valley of Sukkoth.

<sup>8</sup> Gilead is mine, Manasseh is mine;

Ephraim is my helmet,

Judah is my scepter.

<sup>9</sup> Moab is my washbasin,

on Edom I toss my sandal;

over Philistia I shout in triumph."

<sup>10</sup> Who will bring me to the fortified city?

Who will lead me to Edom?

<sup>11</sup> Is it not you, God, you who have rejected us

and no longer go out with our armies?

<sup>12</sup> Give us aid against the enemy,

for human help is worthless.

<sup>13</sup> With God we will gain the victory,

and he will trample down our enemies.

1. Look up Psalm 57 and Psalm 60 in your Bibles (or Bible apps). Compare verses with Psalm 108. What do you notice?
  - Psalm 57 was written when David was hiding in a cave from King Saul
  - Psalm 60 was written during a military campaign when enemies attacked David's homeland
  - What does it tell you that David combined portions of these earlier "lament psalms" into this new song of praise?
2. The sermon opened with the children's story "There's No Such Thing as a Dragon."
  - What "dragons" in your life have you tried to ignore, hoping they'd stay small?
  - How have you seen problems grow larger when left unaddressed?
  - What kinds of "dragons" do people commonly avoid? (relationships, health, finances, spiritual issues, etc.)

### Three Sources of Courage

#### Source 1: Pain (verses 1-5)

1. How can past experiences of pain actually become sources of strength? Think of a difficult season you've walked through. How might God want to use that experience to help you or others in the future?
2. The sermon mentioned that David learned to "awaken the dawn" - to bring light in dark situations. When have you or someone you know been able to do this?
3. The sermon described canal locks that lift boats over walls they can't go around.
  - What "walls" have you encountered that seemed impossible to overcome?
  - How have you seen God provide a way when there seemed to be no way?

#### Source 2: Praise (verses 5-6)

"Courage is when you're more concerned about something else's greatness and supremacy than you are about your own greatness, supremacy, and exaltation."

4. What does it mean practically to "exalt God above the heavens"?
5. What person, cause, or principle would you be willing to take risks for? What does this reveal about your values?
6. How does caring about God's reputation and "those He loves" shift our perspective on our own challenges?

#### Source 3: Promises (verses 7-13)

7. Verse 7 says "God has spoken from his sanctuary." What promises from Scripture have anchored you during difficult times?
8. Look at the specific promises David references. What was God promising Israel, and why was this important for their courage?

9. The sermon mentioned specific promises like "My God will cause all grace to abound" and "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you." What biblical promises do you need to remember more often?
10. Take a few minutes to consider:
  - What "dragon" in your life needs to be acknowledged rather than ignored?
  - Which of the three sources of courage (pain transformed, praise focus, promises remembered) do you most need to develop?
  - What is one specific promise from God's Word you need to hold onto right now?
11. How can we help each other develop steadfast hearts?
12. What would it look like for our group to be people who "awaken the dawn" - who bring hope and light to dark situations?