

Psalm 68

August 30, 2023

Notes:

68:14-16

The location of Mount Zalmon is uncertain but thought to be in the region of Bashan. Now better known as the Golan Heights, Bashan was a mountainous area east of the sea of Galilee. It is bounded on the north by Mount Hermon, which has snow six months out of the year. On the eastern edge is Mount Bashan. This region

receives abundant rainfall, which mostly soaks into the limestone and feeds springs in Damascus as well as the headwaters of the Jordan River.

68:27 Benjamin and Judah were in the far south of Israel, Zebulun and Naphtali in the north. They represent the whole nation, as in the expression “from Dan to Beersheba.”

Questions:

1. Verse 1 echoes the words of Moses in Numbers 10:35, spoken whenever the ark sets forth. If we read the entire Psalm as the progression of the ark of the covenant, what events in the ark’s history correspond to these verses?

7-8:

9-10:

24-27

2. What is the contrast in verses 1 and 3 between the fates of the righteous and the wicked?

3. What is the name given for God in verse 4?

4. How could God be seen as having poured down rain in the wilderness, as in verse 8?

5. Can you think of any scriptural passages where women proclaim a victory, as they do in verse 11?

6. Read verses 15-16. What is the mountain where God will establish His dwelling, and why does Mount Bashan look at it with hatred?

7. Verse 18 is quoted, with some variation, in Ephesians 4:8. What does it mean there? What connects the two instances?

8. Verse 24 speaks in the first person: “my God” and “my King.” How do we see the life of David here?

9. Where do we see Christ in this Psalm?