Psalm 138 – Notes

Background:
1. This is a psalm of David.
2. Tom Waycaster said, "This beautiful Psalm is a tribute to the heart of a man who never lost sight of the role that God played in his life."
3. It is a Thanksgiving Psalm, a Trust Psalm, and a Praise Psalm.
4. It is a strophe psalm. Logos breaks it apart into four sections (1-2, 3-5, 6-7, 8). Many have noted two based movements in the psalm, opening with praise and closing with confidence.
   1. Matthew Hite breaks it down as: What David Will (1-3), What the kings of the earth will do (4-6), Why we will do what we do (7-8).
5. Key words in this Psalm: Lord (Yahweh) 6x and Praise (ydh) 3x..
   1. Praise the Lord!
   2. The parallelism of verse one and two shows the praise of this psalm is in the giving of thanks.
   3. So, I AM THANKFUL...

VV. 1-3 – FOR ALL THE LORD HAS DONE FOR ME
1. Notice verse one and two's **Synthetic Parallelism**:
   1. I will give thanks – with all my heart
   2. I will sing praise – before the gods
   3. I will bow down – toward your holy temple
   4. I will give thanks – to your name
2. What is he singing thanks to the Lord for? VV. 2b-3 tells us:
   1. His lovingkindness
   2. His truth
   3. His word has been magnified
   4. He heard when I called
   5. He made me bold/gave me strength

VV. 4-6 – THE LORD BLESSES THE GREAT AND LOWLY
1. The great would be all the kings of the earth.
   1. They will:
      1. Give thanks to you
      2. Sing of your ways
   2. Because:
      1. They heard His words.
      2. His glory is great.
2. Notice the **Inverted Parallelism**:
   1. He regards (sees, understands) – He knows (notice, learn of)
   2. The lowly – the haughty

VV. 7-8 – FOR ALL THE LORD WILL DO FOR ME
1. The Lord will take care of me in bad situations
   1. Notice the **Synonymous Parallelism**
      1. Stretch forth your hand – Your right hand
      2. Against the wrath of my enemies – Will save me
2. The Lord will take care of me in good situations
   1. He will help me

2. He will show me everlasting lovingkindness
3. So, do not forsake your works!