

Psalm 108:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Who will bring me into the strong city? who will lead me into Edom?

Analysis

Who will bring me into the strong city? (מַיִּ יְבָلֶתִי עִיר מִבְצָר) mi yovileni ir mivtzar)—David shifts from confidence to questioning. Ir mivtzar (fortified city) likely refers to Petra, Edom's mountain fortress carved from rock, famously impregnable. The question 'Who?' acknowledges human inability.

Who will lead me into Edom? (מַיִּ נָחַנִי עַד-אֱדוֹם) nachani (will lead me, guide me) expresses need for divine guidance. After declaring God's sovereign ownership (v.8-9), David faces the practical challenge: How do we actually conquer what God has promised?

This verse models the tension between divine promise and human effort. God has declared Edom His footstool—but the fortified city still stands unconquered. Faith asks not 'if' God will fulfill His word, but 'how' and 'who will accomplish it.' The answer comes in v.11: God Himself must go forth with the armies.

Historical Context

Edom's capital Petra (Sela in Hebrew, meaning 'rock') was carved into canyon walls, accessible only through narrow gorges—militarily nearly impregnable. David recognized that conquering it required more than human strategy; God Himself must fight.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. What 'fortified cities' (seemingly impossible challenges) stand between you and God's promises for your life?
2. How do you balance trusting God's sovereign promises with acknowledging your human limitations?
3. When facing impossible odds, do you ask 'Who will help me?'—and recognize that only God is sufficient?

Interlinear Text

עַד נָתַן כִּי מִי מְבַצֵּר עַד יְרֵא בְּלִנִּי מִי
H4310 Who will bring city me into the strong H4310 who will lead H5704
H2986 H5892 H4013 H5148

אֶלְעָם:
me into Edom
H123

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