

Give Thanks to the LORD, His Lovingkindness Is Everlasting

Psalm 136:1-26

November 22, 2020

Don White

In Jewish tradition this psalm is known as, The Great Hallel (the great psalm of praise).

Structure:

Give Thanks (vv. 1-3)

Creation (vv. 4-9)

Deliverance from Slavery in Egypt (vv. 10-15)

Wandering & Conquest (vv. 16-22)

Providential Care (vv. 23-25)

Give Thanks (v. 26)

We are to give thanks to the LORD because of who He is and what He is like. (vv. 1-3, 26)

¹Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting.

²Give thanks to the God of gods,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting.

³Give thanks to the Lord of lords,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting.

²⁶Give thanks to the God of heaven,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting.

“Give thanks,” “is not the whole meaning of this word; it basically means ‘confess’ or ‘acknowledge’ and therefore calls us to thoughtful, grateful worship spelling out what we know or have found of God’s glory and His deeds.” (Kidner, *Psalms*, TOTC, vol. 2, p. 457)

Because of who He is:

To the LORD (YAHWEH)

To the God of gods (1Cor. 8:4-6; 10:19-20; see also Is. 40-46).

To the Lord of lords (Deut. 10:14-17)

To the God of heaven (Pss. 115:3; 135:5-6)

Because of What He is like:

He is good. (Pss. 86:5; 100:5; 106:1; 107:1; 119:68; 135:3)

His lovingkindness is everlasting (Ex. 34:6-7)

“steadfast love,” “loyal or faithful love” (Pss. 23:6; 51:1; Deut. 7:7-11)

Give Thanks for His lovingkindness as it is seen in Creation (vv. 4-9)

- ⁴To Him who alone does great wonders,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting;
- ⁵To Him who made the heavens with skill,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting;
- ⁶To Him who spread out the earth above the waters,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting;
- ⁷To Him who made *the* great lights,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting:
- ⁸The sun to rule by day,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting,
- ⁹The moon and stars to rule by night,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting.

Genesis 1:1-19

Give Thanks for His lovingkindness as it is seen the Exodus (vv. 10-15)

- ¹⁰To Him who smote the Egyptians in their firstborn, Ex. 12:29
For His lovingkindness is everlasting,
- ¹¹And brought Israel out from their midst, Deut. 6:23
For His lovingkindness is everlasting,
- ¹²With a strong hand and an outstretched arm,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting.
- ¹³To Him who divided the Red Sea asunder, Ex. 14:21
For His lovingkindness is everlasting,
- ¹⁴And made Israel pass through the midst of it,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting;
- ¹⁵But He overthrew Pharaoh and his army in the Red Sea,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting.

Give thanks for His lovingkindness as it is seen in Wilderness Wandering and the Conquest (vv. 16-22)

- ¹⁶To Him who led His people through the wilderness,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting;
- ¹⁷To Him who smote great kings,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting,

- ¹⁸And slew mighty kings,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting:
- ¹⁹Sihon, king of the Amorites, Num. 21:21-24
For His lovingkindness is everlasting,
- ²⁰And Og, king of Bashan, Num. 21:33-35
For His lovingkindness is everlasting,
- ²¹And gave their land as a heritage,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting,
- ²²Even a heritage to Israel His servant,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting.

Give thanks for His lovingkindness as it is seen in His Providential Care (vv. 23-25)

- ²³Who remembered us in our low estate, Is. 40:27-31; 49:14-15
For His lovingkindness is everlasting,
- ²⁴And has rescued us from our adversaries,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting;
- ²⁵Who gives food to all flesh, Ps. 104:25-28
For His lovingkindness is everlasting. Matt. 6:25-34

Application:

Give thanks to the Lord.

Don't grumble, complain or be unthankful.

Rom. 1:21

2 Tim. 3:1-5

Meditate on God's lovingkindness in the world and in our lives.