

Psalm 86

1 A Prayer of David. Bow down thine ear, O LORD, hear me: for I am poor and needy. 2 Preserve my soul; for I am holy: O thou my God, save thy servant that trusteth in thee. 3 Be merciful unto me, O Lord: for I cry unto thee daily. 4 Rejoice the soul of thy servant: for unto thee, O Lord, do I lift up my soul. 5 For thou, Lord, art good, and ready to forgive; and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon thee.

6 Give ear, O LORD, unto my prayer; and attend to the voice of my supplications. 7 In the day of my trouble I will call upon thee: for thou wilt answer me. 8 Among the gods there is none like unto thee, O Lord; neither are there any works like unto thy works. 9 All nations whom thou hast made shall come and worship before thee, O Lord; and shall glorify thy name. 10 For thou art great, and doest wondrous things: thou art God alone.

11 Teach me thy way, O LORD; I will walk in thy truth: unite my heart to fear thy name. 12 I will praise thee, O Lord my God, with all my heart: and I will glorify thy name for evermore. 13 For great is thy mercy toward me: and thou hast delivered my soul from the lowest hell.

14 O God, the proud are risen against me, and the assemblies of violent men have sought after my soul; and have not set thee before them. 15 But thou, O Lord, art a God full of compassion, and gracious, longsuffering, and plenteous in mercy and truth.

16 O turn unto me, and have mercy upon me; give thy strength unto thy servant, and save the son of thine handmaid. 17 Shew me a token for good; that they which hate me may see it, and be ashamed: because thou, LORD, hast holpen me, and comforted me.

Introduction:

1. This is the only David Psalm in Book 3.
2. "A Prayer of David" (mentioned one other time in Psalm 17:1).
3. Any Christian can pray this prayer and customize his circumstances.

Outline:

- A. A Prayer for Mercy and Compassion (vv.1-5)
- B. A Prayer for Mercy and Compassion (vv.6-10)
[a hymn of praise from vv.8-13]
- C. A Prayer for Mercy and Compassion (vv.11-13)
- D. A Prayer for Mercy and Compassion (vv.14-15)
- E. A Prayer for Mercy and Compassion (vv.16-17)

Observations:

1. David's prayer requests:
 - A. Hear me (v.1) Give ear (v.6), attend to the voice (v.6).
 - B. Preserve my soul (v.2).
 - C. Be merciful unto me (v.3), have mercy upon me (v.16).
 - D. Rejoice the soul of thy servant (v.4).
 - E. Teach me thy way (v.11).
 - F. Turn unto me (v.16).
 - G. Give strength unto thy servant (v.16).
 - H. Save (deliver) the son of thine handmaid (v.16).
 - I. Show me a token for good (v.17).
2. David's praises:
 - A. The Lord is good.
 - B. The Lord is ready to forgive.
 - C. The Lord is plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon Him.
 - D. The Lord will answer.
 - E. The Lord is great.
 - F. The Lord does wonderful things
 - G. The Lord is God alone.
 - H. The Lord is great in mercy
 - I. The Lord has delivered his soul from the lowest hell.
 - J. The Lord is a God full of compassion
 - K. The Lord is gracious, longsuffering, full of truth.
 - L. The Lord has holpen (helped) me.
 - M. The Lord has comforted me.

Lesson: Tried but Trusting. "Lord, teach us to pray"