

Evening Sermon / February 20, 2022 / Psalm 136 “God’s Forever Mercy!”

Much like our modern responsive readings, this Psalm involved God’s worshipping people in responsive singing ...

God’s eternal, forever MERCY is the main theme of this Psalm, obviously “For His mercy endures forever” is repeated 26 times! God’s mercy is not only the main theme of this Psalm but one of main themes of all of Scripture! God’s mercy is that sweet moral, spiritual honey which like a magnet PULLS us into the realm of God’s sweet grace!

I. Like the last Psalm this one starts with praise for God’s goodness -

1 Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever. Psalm 136:1 (NKJV)

1. God is good and the source of every “good” thing –

¹⁶ Do not be deceived, my beloved brethren. ¹⁷ Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning. James 1:16–17 (NKJV)

2. Often, we hear someone called a “good man” or “good woman” but understand, no one is “good” but God – Luke 18:19 (NKJV)

¹⁹ So Jesus said to him, “Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, *that is*, God.

Jesus is God – John 1:1, Romans 9:5 His question to the rich young ruler is not a denial of this but rather (1) asked to make the man think about to Whom he was talking, and (2) to humble the man regarding any delusions of his own goodness.

II. This Psalm continues with praise for God’s superiority –

² Oh, give thanks to the God of gods! For His mercy endures forever. ³ Oh, give thanks to the Lord of lords! For His mercy endures forever: ⁴ To Him who alone does great wonders, For His mercy endures forever; Psalm 136:2-4 (NKJV)

Superior to false gods, superior to any lord and with a superiority displayed by MIRACLES, wonders! He alone does them! Though others may fake them – Revelation 13:13

III. There is praise for creation –

⁵ To Him who by wisdom made the heavens, For His mercy endures forever; ⁶ To Him who laid out the earth above the waters, For His mercy endures forever; ⁷ To Him who made great lights, For His mercy endures forever— ⁸ The sun to rule by day, For His mercy endures forever; ⁹ The moon and stars to rule by night, For His mercy endures forever. Psalm 136:5-9 (NKJV)

IV. There is praise for redemption –

¹⁰ To Him who struck Egypt in their firstborn, For His mercy endures forever; ¹¹ And brought out Israel from among them, For His mercy endures forever; ¹² With a strong hand, and with an outstretched arm, For His mercy endures forever; ¹³ To Him who divided the Red Sea in two,

For His mercy *endures* forever; ¹⁴ And made Israel pass through the midst of it, For His mercy *endures* forever; ¹⁵ But overthrew Pharaoh and his army in the Red Sea, For His mercy *endures* forever; Psalm 136:10-15 (NKJV)

V. *There is praise for guidance, victory and provision –*

¹⁶ To Him who led His people through the wilderness, For His mercy *endures* forever; ¹⁷ To Him who struck down great kings, For His mercy *endures* forever; ¹⁸ And slew famous kings, For His mercy *endures* forever— ¹⁹ Sihon king of the Amorites, For His mercy *endures* forever; ²⁰ And Og king of Bashan, For His mercy *endures* forever— ²¹ And gave their land as a heritage, For His mercy *endures* forever; ²² A heritage to Israel His servant, For His mercy *endures* forever. Psalm 136:16-22 (NKJV)

VI. *There is praise for remembrance, mindfulness, care ...*

²³ Who remembered us in our lowly state, For His mercy *endures* forever; ²⁴ And rescued us from our enemies, For His mercy *endures* forever; ²⁵ Who gives food to all flesh, For His mercy *endures* forever. Psalm 136:23-25 (NKJV)

VII. *There is praise for His heavenly holiness –*

²⁶ Oh, give thanks to the God of heaven! For His mercy *endures* forever. Psalm 136:26 (NKJV)

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