

A PRAYER FOR WHEN YOU ARE DESPERATE**Psalm 86****I. Cries to God from deep waters: v1-7**

Basis of his plea: not what I deserve, but only _____:

- 1: poor & needy
- 3: mercy—call to You ALL day long
 15 min increments!
- 5: You are forgiving and good
- 6: my cry for mercy

(things change in this psalm, but not the plea: v16 still the same)

- 4: I long to smile again; You are my only Source of **joy**

II. Eyes off _____ to see _____ anew: v8-10

Finally tired of simply crying out. Stop and think about Who you are crying to. God-centered

- 8: You are unique
 Exodus
 Cross and empty tomb

- 9: It is not about me!

- 10: You alone are God. I am transfixed by the wonder of You

III. A _____ prayer: v11-13

New focus:

- 11: enable me to live in this situation in a way that pleases You
 Give me an undivided heart—I am so divided most of the time
 I Peter 1:6-7

4:1 drawing close to Jesus is so important that temptations lose their power

12: so my passion is Your glory forever! Because

13: You *have already delivered me from death. How will You not freely give me whatever I need for my good?*!
I can trust You

IV. The problems don't disappear, but I have _____ : v14-17

14: first time he states the problem. Extreme? Millions of Christians have had the same situation. Put your problems in perspective.

15: Back to God—what He is like toward **me**

16: Final prayer: again for **mercy**. Always the only plea.

Notice the two "YOUR"s

a) Grant YOUR unique strength (Who made the nations—v9)

b) I am YOUR servant (and son?)—unique relationship

17: Bold: give me a **sign** of Your goodness in this situation, so

a) I see it and gain hope

b) my enemies will see it and be put to shame. Objective. To glorify You.

Enter into this prayer—possess it—for your life.