

Psalm 66

1 To the chief Musician, A Song or Psalm. Make a joyful noise unto God, all ye lands: 2 Sing forth the honour of his name: make his praise glorious. 3 Say unto God, How terrible art thou in thy works! through the greatness of thy power shall thine enemies submit themselves unto thee. 4 All the earth shall worship thee, and shall sing unto thee; they shall sing to thy name. Selah. 5 Come and see the works of God: he is terrible in his doing toward the children of men. 6 He turned the sea into dry land: they went through the flood on foot: there did we rejoice in him. 7 He ruleth by his power for ever; his eyes behold the nations: let not the rebellious exalt themselves. Selah.

8 O bless our God, ye people, and make the voice of his praise to be heard: 9 Which holdeth our soul in life, and suffereth not our feet to be moved. 10 For thou, O God, hast proved us: thou hast tried us, as silver is tried. 11 Thou broughtest us into the net; thou laidst affliction upon our loins. 12 Thou hast caused men to ride over our heads; we went through fire and through water: but thou broughtest us out into a wealthy place.

13 I will go into thy house with burnt offerings: I will pay thee my vows, 14 Which my lips have uttered, and my mouth hath spoken, when I was in trouble. 15 I will offer unto thee burnt sacrifices of fatlings, with the incense of rams; I will offer bullocks with goats. Selah. 16 Come and hear, all ye that fear God, and I will declare what he hath done for my soul. 17 I cried unto him with my mouth, and he was extolled with my tongue. 18 If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me: 19 But verily God hath heard me; he hath attended to the voice of my prayer. 20 Blessed be God, which hath not turned away my prayer, nor his mercy from me.

Introduction:

1. “To the chief Musician” (1 Chr. 25:1-6) – Asaph (also, Jeduthun and Heman).
2. “A Psalm” – instrumental music.
3. “A Song” – vocal music.
4. Although David is not named, he can be safely assumed to be the composer since this is consistent with the other David Psalms.

Outline:

- A. Universal Praise for God’s Reign (vv.1-7)
- B. National Praise for God’s Reign (vv.8-12)
- C. Personal Praise for God’s Reign (vv.13-20)

Observations:

1. God’s mighty Exodus deliverance is referenced here.
2. God is pleased when we sing UNTO the LORD with a joyful noise (singing from the heart). Worship and singing go together.
3. God remains a threat to His enemies (vv. 3, 7). “terrible” – same word translated “reverence” in Psalm 89:7. God is to be feared and revered.
4. (v.9) – God keeps us – this is true soul-security (Jn. 10:27-30).
5. God is a testing God (vv.10-12) – to bring us in a wealthy place – a place of blessing!
6. (v.13) the burnt offering is a free will offering. Worship comes out of a willing heart.
7. Sin will hinder our prayers and service for the Lord (v.18). Sin will hinder our worship.
8. “regard” iniquity is not committing a sin, it is approving or esteem it or think highly of sin. What is your attitude towards sin? Regarding sin implies no repentance of sin.
9. But God hears our prayers because of the forgiveness of sin by the once offered sacrifice of Jesus. David looked forward to Jesus’ sacrifice and we look back at it.
10. God answers our prayers because of Jesus.

Lesson: Come and see the works of God!