

LESSONS FROM THE PSALMS EIGHTY-SIX

Scripture: Psalm 86:1-17

Ray O. Brooks

Introduction:

- A. This Psalm flowed from the heart and pen of David in a time of severe testing. He was a man after God's own heart, but trouble came to him as it does to all of God's people.
 - B. This psalm seems to be a prayer coming from the very depth of the soul of this deeply troubled, yet trusting servant of God.
 - C. Let us consider some practical lessons that should be an encouragement to us all.
- I. LEARN THAT THE BLESSINGS OF GOD AWAIT THE CALL OF HIS PEOPLE.
 - A. Verses 1, 2, 3, 6, 11, 16 all begin with David calling on God to bless him in some way or to fulfill some need.
 - B. Verse 5 clearly points out the worth of calling on the Lord. God is plenteous in mercy to all them that call upon Him.
 - C. The reasons for this should be clear.
 1. God wants us to know that He is the source of all blessings. (All good and perfect gifts are from above)
 2. God wants us to know that we must depend on Him for everything we have need of.
 - II. LEARN WHAT IS THE TWOFOLD ATTITUDE THAT MUST ACCOMPANY THE EFFECTIVE PRAYERS OF GODS PEOPLE.
 - A. We must recognize our God:
 1. As the one and only true God. vs. 8, 10
 2. As the Creator of all peoples. v.9
 3. As the One who does wondrous things and whose works are like no other works. vs. 8, 10
 - B. We must see ourselves:
 1. As poor and needy. v.1
 2. As godly saved people. vs. 2,13
 3. As trusting in God for our preservation and deliverance v. 2
 4. As having confidence that God will answer my prayers. v.7 "for thou wilt answer me."
 - III. LEARN THAT THE SAME MERCY THAT DELIVERED US FROM THE LOWEST HELL IS THE MERCY WE NEED TO DELIVER US FROM THE TRIALS AND TROUBLES OF THIS LIFE. vs. 14-16
 - A. We are never delivered because of any merit on our part.
 - B. We shall be delivered because our God is:
 1. Full of compassion—sympathetic consciousness of other's distress together with a desire to alleviate it.
 2. Gracious ...kindness.
 3. Longsuffering...patient slow to anger.
 4. Plenteous in mercy and truth...abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.
 - IV. LEARN THAT IF GOD'S PEOPLE ARE TO WALK IN TRUTH, WE MUST BE TAUGHT GOD'S WAY. v.11
 - A. God wills that His people walk in His truth and reverence His Name.
 1. These two things were the basic requirements set forth in the 10 Commandments.
 - a. The first four had to do with reverence to God.
 - b. The last six had to do with walking in His truth.
 2. The two great commandments Jesus gave contained the same.

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- a. Love the Lord thy God with all your heart, mind and soul...your total being. This had to do with reverence to God.
 - b. The second had to do with walking in God's truth in relationship to others.
- B. Man must be taught God's way.
1. God said, "My ways are not as your ways."
 2. God also said, "There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death."
 3. To accomplish this purpose, our Lord included teaching in the Great Commission He gave His churches.
 - a. People first must be taught God's way of salvation which is the gospel...according to the Scriptures.
 - b. After salvation and baptism, people are to be taught "all things whatsoever I have commanded you."
 - c. For this purpose, God gave us the Bible and commanded us to "Study to show ourselves approved unto God, workmen that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of God."
 - d. And preachers are commanded to preach the Word, the truth of God.