

Psalm 66

¹ Everyone, make a joyful noise to our God, Jesus Christ¹. ² Sing about the glory and honor of His name, and do it in such a way that it invites others to join in the praise and admiration² of Christ. ³ Bow in prayer, and tell God,

“The works You have done in the past are absolutely awesome. It is because of Your great power that Your enemies pretend to be obedient to You. They do it because they are deathly afraid of what You might do to them if they don’t. ⁴ One day all the people of the earth will worship You, and they will sing praises to Your holy name.”

Now stop for a moment and meditate upon the true greatness of our LORD. He certainly is worthy of our praise and admiration.

⁵ All of you, come and hear about the awesome things the LORD has done for men and women of the past. ⁶ He opened the Red Sea and made the ocean floor dry land so that the people of Isarel could cross without getting their sandals muddy. Once they all arrived safely on the other side, they shouted for joy and praised God. ⁷ This same God rules over all of the nations of the world, and He watches everything they do. For this reason, unsaved people should be careful not to proudly exalt themselves.

Now stop for a moment and meditate upon the power and authority of our LORD. He has the nations under His control even though it may not look like it.

⁸ Blessed be our God, Jesus Christ. Let the sound of His praise be heard by all. ⁹ He is the One who keeps us alive and keeps our feet from slipping. ¹⁰ LORD, there was a time when You put Israel to the test. You poured on the heat and refined us in the furnace of adversity until we were willing to serve You and be obedient. ¹¹ You brought us into bondage like a bird caught in a trap, and You weighed us down with labor that was hard to bear. ¹² You caused cruel taskmasters to work us until our bodies were worn out. We were burned out and about to drown in our troubles. Yet You took pity on us and led us out of that vile place and planted us in the promised land – a place of abundance.

¹³⁻¹⁴ Since You rescued us, I will come into Your house and offer the sacrifice of a thankful heart. I will keep every vow I made when things were really looking bleak for us back then. ¹⁵ I offer You my broken and surrendered heart.

Now stop for a moment and meditate upon the need to thank the LORD. He certainly deserves our praise and thanks.

¹⁶ All of you who have a genuine, biblical fear of the LORD, listen, and I will tell you about all of the things He has done for me. ¹⁷ I cried out to Him in prayer, and heavenly praise was on my tongue. As a result, He heard me. ¹⁸ Now, if I had cherished sinful thoughts and deeds the LORD would not have paid any attention to my prayer. ¹⁹ Ah, but God has heard my prayer and has given it His full attention. ²⁰ Blessed be the LORD, Jesus Christ, who has not rejected my prayer nor withheld His tender love and kindness from me.

¹ In John 14:6 Christ said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No man comes to the Father but by me." Therefore, the name "Jesus Christ" has been used.

² Definition of "glorious", www.dictionary.com/browse/glorious

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