

## PSALM 86

A Prayer of David.

**B**OW down thine ear, O LORD, hear me: for I *am* poor and needy.

2 Preserve my soul; for I *am* holy: O thou my God, save thy servant that trusteth in thee.

3 Be merciful unto me, O Lord: for I cry unto thee daily.

4 Rejoice the soul of thy servant: for unto thee, O Lord, do I lift up my soul.

5 For thou, Lord, *art* good, and ready to forgive; and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon thee.

6 Give ear, O LORD, unto my prayer; and attend to the voice of my supplications.

7 In the day of my trouble I will call upon thee: for thou wilt answer me.

8. Among the gods *there is* none like unto thee, O Lord; neither *are there any works* like unto thy works.

9 All nations whom thou hast made shall come and worship

before thee, O Lord; and shall glorify thy name.

10 For thou *art* great, and doest wondrous things: thou *art* God alone.

11 Teach me thy way, O LORD; I will walk in thy truth: unite my heart to fear thy name.

12 I will praise thee, O Lord my God, with all my heart: and I will glorify thy name for evermore.

13 For great *is* thy mercy toward me: and thou hast delivered my soul from the lowest hell.

14 O God, the proud are risen against me, and the assemblies of violent *men* have sought after my soul; and have not set thee before them.

15 But thou, O Lord, *art* a God full of compassion, and gracious, longsuffering, and plenteous in mercy and truth.

16 O turn unto me, and have mercy upon me; give thy strength unto thy servant, and save the son of thine handmaid.

17 Shew me a token for good; that they which hate me may see *it*,

and be ashamed: because thou, LORD, hast holpen me, and comforted me.

### PSALM 87

A Psalm or Song for the sons of Korah.

**H**IS foundation *is* in the holy mountains.

2 The LORD loveth the gates of Zion more than all the dwellings of Jacob.

3 Glorious things are spoken of thee, O city of God. Selah.

4. I will make mention of Rahab and Babylon to them that know me: behold Philistia, and Tyre, with Ethiopia; this *man* was born there.

5 And of Zion it shall be said, This and that man was born in her: and the highest himself shall establish her.

6 The LORD shall count, when he writeth up the people, *that* this *man* was born there. Selah.

7 As well the singers as the players on instruments *shall be there*: all my springs *are* in thee.

### PSALM 88

A Song or Psalm for the sons of Korah, to the chief Musician upon Mahalath Leannoth, Maschil of Heman the Ezrahite.

**O**LORD God of my salvation, I have cried day *and* night before thee:

2 Let my prayer come before

thee: incline thine ear unto my cry;

3 For my soul is full of troubles: and my life draweth nigh unto the grave.

4 I am counted with them that go down into the pit: I am as a man *that hath* no strength:

5 Free among the dead, like the slain that lie in the grave, whom thou rememberest no more: and they are cut off from thy hand.

6 Thou hast laid me in the lowest pit, in darkness, in the deeps.

7 Thy wrath lieth hard upon me, and thou hast afflicted *me* with all thy waves. Selah.

8 Thou hast put away mine acquaintance far from me; thou hast made me an abomination unto them: *I am* shut up, and I cannot come forth.

9 Mine eye mourneth by reason of affliction: LORD, I have called daily upon thee, I have stretched out my hands unto thee.

10. Wilt thou shew wonders to the dead? shall the dead arise *and* praise thee? Selah.

11 Shall thy lovingkindness be declared in the grave? *or* thy faithfulness in destruction?

12 Shall thy wonders be known in the dark? and thy righteousness in the land of forgetfulness?

13 But unto thee have I cried, O LORD; and in the morning shall my prayer prevent thee.

14 LORD, why castest thou off my soul? *why* hidest thou thy face from me?

15 I *am* afflicted and ready to die from *my* youth up: *while* I suffer thy terrors I am distracted.

16 Thy fierce wrath goeth over me; thy terrors have cut me off.

17 They came round about me daily like water; they compassed me about together.

18 Lover and friend hast thou put far from me, *and* mine acquaintance into darkness.

### PSALM 89

Maschil of Ethan the Ezrahite.

**I**WILL sing of the mercies of the LORD for ever: with my mouth will I make known thy faithfulness to all generations.

2 For I have said, Mercy shall be built up for ever: thy faithfulness shalt thou establish in the very heavens.

3 I have made a covenant with my chosen, I have sworn unto David my servant,

4 Thy seed will I establish for ever, and build up thy throne to all generations. Selah.

5. And the heavens shall praise

thy wonders, O LORD: thy faithfulness also in the congregation of the saints.

6 For who in the heaven can be compared unto the LORD? *who* among the sons of the mighty can be likened unto the LORD?

7 God is greatly to be feared in the assembly of the saints, and to be had in reverence of all *them that are* about him.

8 O LORD God of hosts, who *is* a strong LORD like unto thee? or to thy faithfulness round about thee?

9 Thou rulest the raging of the sea: when the waves thereof arise, thou stillest them.

10 Thou hast broken Rahab in pieces, as one that is slain; thou hast scattered thine enemies with thy strong arm.

11 The heavens *are* thine, the earth also *is* thine: *as for* the world and the fulness thereof, thou hast founded them.

12 The north and the south thou hast created them: Tabor and Hermon shall rejoice in thy name.

13 Thou hast a mighty arm: strong is thy hand, *and* high is thy right hand.

14 Justice and judgment *are* the habitation of thy throne: mercy and

truth shall go before thy face.

15. Blessed *is* the people that know the joyful sound: they shall walk, O LORD, in the light of thy countenance.

16 In thy name shall they rejoice all the day: and in thy righteousness shall they be exalted.

17 For thou *art* the glory of their strength: and in thy favour our horn shall be exalted.

18 For the LORD *is* our defence; and the Holy One of Israel *is* our king.

19. Then thou spakest in vision to thy holy one, and saidst, I have laid help upon *one that is* mighty; I have exalted *one* chosen out of the people.

20 I have found David my servant; with my holy oil have I anointed him:

21 With whom my hand shall be established: mine arm also shall strengthen him.

22 The enemy shall not exact upon him; nor the son of wickedness afflict him.

23 And I will beat down his foes before his face, and plague them that hate him.

24 But my faithfulness and my mercy *shall be* with him: and in my name shall his horn be exalted.

25 I will set his hand also in the sea, and his right hand in the rivers.

26 He shall cry unto me, Thou *art* my father, my God, and the rock of my salvation.

27 Also I will make him *my* firstborn, higher than the kings of the earth.

28 My mercy will I keep for him for evermore, and my covenant shall stand fast with him.

29 His seed also will I make *to endure* for ever, and his throne as the days of heaven.

30 If his children forsake my law, and walk not in my judgments;

31 If they break my statutes, and keep not my commandments;

32 Then will I visit their transgression with the rod, and their iniquity with stripes.

33 Nevertheless my lovingkindness will I not utterly take from him, nor suffer my faithfulness to fail.

34 My covenant will I not break, nor alter the thing that is gone out of my lips.

35 Once have I sworn by my holiness that I will not lie unto David.

36 His seed shall endure for ever, and his throne as the sun

before me.

37 It shall be established for ever as the moon, and *as* a faithful witness in heaven. Selah.

38. But thou hast cast off and abhorred, thou hast been wroth with thine anointed.

39 Thou hast made void the covenant of thy servant: thou hast profaned his crown *by casting it* to the ground.

40 Thou hast broken down all his hedges; thou hast brought his strong holds to ruin.

41 All that pass by the way spoil him: he is a reproach to his neighbours.

42 Thou hast set up the right hand of his adversaries; thou hast made all his enemies to rejoice.

43 Thou hast also turned the edge of his sword, and hast not made him to stand in the battle.

44 Thou hast made his glory to cease, and cast his throne down to the ground.

45 The days of his youth hast thou shortened: thou hast covered him with shame. Selah.

46 How long, LORD? wilt thou hide thyself for ever? shall thy wrath burn like fire?

47 Remember how short my time is: wherefore hast thou made all men in vain?

48 What man *is he that* liveth, and shall not see death? shall he deliver his soul from the hand of the grave? Selah.

49 Lord, where *are* thy former lovingkindnesses, *which* thou swarest unto David in thy truth?

50 Remember, Lord, the reproach of thy servants; *how* I do bear in my bosom *the reproach of* all the mighty people;

51 Wherewith thine enemies have reproached, O LORD; wherewith they have reproached the footsteps of thine anointed.

52 Blessed *be* the LORD for evermore. Amen, and Amen.

## DEVOTIONAL COMMENTS

In Psalms 85—89 the Psalmist is taken up with the glory and majesty of the Lord Himself. He realizes that the King is on His throne, and he is praising God for His holiness and power.

As Christians, we do not enter into a life of praise until God has taken us down through the valley of the shadow of death. God must break our stubborn will and empty us of our old self-life. Only when Christ is truly on the throne of our hearts can we sing the new songs of praise and worship.

David was called “a man after God’s own heart.” I believe this was said of David because he learned to live the life of praise. It is true that there will be times of discouragement, but as Christians we must realize that whatever befalls us, God is still on the throne. He only allows problems to come into our lives in order to strengthen us and give us courage for a new day. He sometimes allows us to walk through the valley of the shadow of death in order that we might be more conformed to the image of His Son, and be better able to serve Him. Once a Christian realizes that all things come from, or are allowed by God, he can

face every day with the assurance that “All things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.” Therefore, we know that even chastisement is for our own good. I especially like Proverbs 3:5,6, which says, “Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.” Won’t you claim these precious promises for your life? Believe these verses, follow the instructions therein, and God will abundantly bless you.

### **PROVERB FOR TODAY**

“Correct thy son, and he shall give thee rest; yea, he shall give delight unto thy soul” (Proverbs 29:17).

### **TREASURE PATH TO SOUL WINNING**

**ASSIGNMENT 22:** For today’s memory verses, follow instructions on page 8.

### **ON THIS DATE IN HISTORY**

**1491**

**HENRY VIII OF ENGLAND WAS BORN.**

**1703**

**SOME GIVE THIS AS THE BIRTHDAY OF JOHN WESLEY.**

Today is the birthday of John Wesley, the founder of Methodism. John Wesley said he did not intend to found a denomination but rather a movement. He once said, “Give me ten men who love nothing but God, seek nothing but souls, and hate nothing but sin, and I will turn the world upside down for God.”

Someone upon hearing that John Wesley prayed two to four hours every morning said that they had too much to do to spend that much time in prayer. Mr. Wesley said that he had too much to do to not spend that much time in prayer.

**1902**

**THE UNITED STATES BOUGHT RIGHTS TO THE PANAMA CANAL.**

Pray for the Christians and missionaries who serve in the Panama Canal area and in Panama.

**1914**

**THE FIRST WORLD WAR BEGAN IN EUROPE.**

**1914**

**THE BIRTHDAY OF LESTER ROLOFF.**

Here was one of the most unique preachers in America. For many years he had been a close associate of Dr. Jack Hyles in the Lord’s work. He was a radio preacher, an evangelist, and the founder of the “City of Refuge,” built for the reclamation of fallen men. Pray today for his ministry, which goes on in Missouri following his going home to Heaven in 1981. The ministry is a blessing to so many thousands of people. I think of a pastor friend of mine, Chip Williams of the Bayview Baptist Church of San Pedro, California, who earlier in his ministry worked with Brother Roloff. Pray for him today.

**1919**

**THE VERSAILLES TREATY WAS SIGNED.**

### **ON THIS DATE IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY**

**1874**

**FREEDMEN’S BANK CLOSED.** Black depositors had some \$3 Million in the bank, which had an imposing headquarters in Washington and branches in various cities. President Frederick Douglass said later that the Freedmen’s Bank had been “the black man’s cow and the white man’s milk.”

**1770**

**QUAKERS, LED BY ANTHONY BENNEZET, OPENED A SCHOOL FOR BLACKS** in Philadelphia.

**1964**

**ORGANIZATION FOR AFRO-AMERICAN UNITY FOUNDED** in New York by Malcolm X.

**1978**

**U.S. SUPREME COURT ORDERED** the University of California Medical School at Davis to admit Allan P. Bakke in so-called reverse discrimination suit.

**1971**

**U.S. SUPREME COURT UNANIMOUSLY OVERTURNED THE DRAFT EVASION CONVICTION** of Muhammad Ali.

---

# The Story of the Psalms

## PSALMS 54

**AUTHOR: David**

**THE STORY BEHIND THE PSALM:**

David was running from Saul. He came to Ziph. The Ziphims came and said to Saul, “Doth not David hide himself with us?” Once again, David was barely spared, but he was spared. This Psalm, as well as others, was used by David as he looked back over his life and praised the Lord for sparing him during this time of betrayal by Saul.

When Dr. Bob Jones, Sr. was in his last days, he stayed in a small room in the hospital area of Bob Jones University. My daughter, Becky, who was just a little girl at the time, and I went to see him. I remember how he was praising the Lord for how good God had been. His days were numbered, and yet he was looking back with thanksgiving to all the good things that God had done. I asked him if he would pray for me. The old warrior placed his hand on my head and lifted his heart to God and prayed for my ministry. Suddenly I thought I could hear the marching of a mighty army, an army of soldiers of the cross that had gone out from Bob Jones University to cover the globe, an army of converts marching toward the holy city because of the ministry of Dr. Bob Jones, Sr. What a time of fellowship, what a time of dedication as the old soldier looked back on his battles and thanked the Commanding General for His protection!

**THE WAY IT WAS USED BY GOD’S PEOPLE**

This is another one of the Psalms that was used at times of betrayal. Many a lonely, forsaken and betrayed Israelite claimed the victory by reading and singing Psalm 54.

---

# Treasure Path to Soul-Winning

## MEMORY VERSE TOPIC FOR THIS WEEK:

### DIFFICULT PROBLEMS SOLVED: "THERE ARE TOO MANY HYPOCRITES IN THE CHURCH"

(Assignment 22)

Please recite all three components of each of these five verses aloud, five times each morning, and five times each evening, for the next seven days. The three components of each verse are: Subject, Scripture Reference, and Scripture Text. (For more details, see "The Treasure Path to Soul Winning," page xiii near the front of this book.)

#### **You are not to judge.**

( ) Matthew 7:1

Judge not, that ye be not judged..

#### **Those that try to judge are inexcusable.**

( ) Romans 2:1

Therefore thou art inexcusable, O man, whosoever thou art that judgest: for wherein thou judgest another, thou condemnest thyself; for thou that judgest doest the same things.

#### **Judgment of God according to truth.**

( ) Romans 2:2

But we are sure that the judgment of God is according to truth against them which commit such things.

#### **Those that judge do the same thing.**

( ) Romans 2:3

And thinkest thou this, O man, that judgest them which do such things, and doest the same, that thou shalt escape the judgment of God?

#### **Only accountable for yourself.**

( ) Romans 14:12

So then everyone of us shall give account of himself to God.