

A GRATEFUL FAMILY

Psalm 66

Introduction: a call for global praise...

Shout with joy to God, all the earth! Sing the glory of His name; make His praise glorious! Say to God, “How awesome are your deeds! So great is your power that your enemies cringe before you. All the earth bows down to you; they sing praise to you, they sing praise to your name.”
(Psalm 66:1-4)

Recall: praise the God of the earth – “Come and see what God has done, how awesome His works in man’s behalf! He turned the sea into dry land, they passed through the waters on foot – come let us rejoice in Him. He rules forever by His power, His eyes watch the nations – let not the rebellious rise up against Him.” **(vv. 5-7)**

All the ends of the earth will remember and turn to the LORD, and all the families of the nations will bow down before Him, for dominion belongs to the LORD and He rules over the nations.
(Psalm 22:27)

Learn: praise the God of His people – “Praise our God, O peoples, let the sound of His praise be heard; He has preserved our lives and kept our feet from slipping.” **(v. 8)**

- ***The community crisis: God’s testing*** – “For you, O God, tested us; you refined us like silver. You brought us into prison and laid burdens on our backs. You let me ride over our heads; we went through fire and water but you brought us to a place of abundance.” **(vv. 10-12)**

⚡ ***Note: there is a radical difference between being tested and being tempted*** – “When tempted, no one should say, ‘God is tempting me.’ For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He tempt anyone...” **(James 1:13)**

No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it. **(Heb. 12:11)**

Share: praise the God of my life – “Come and listen, all you who fear God; let me tell you what He has done for me. I cried out to Him with my mouth; His praise was on my tongue. If I had cherished sin in my heart, the LORD would not have listened; but God surely listened and heard my voice in prayer.” **(vv. 16-19)**

⚡ ***Note: we proclaim all that God has done, not all that we have done*** – “One generation will commend your works to another; they will tell of your mighty acts... They will tell of the power of your awesome works, and I will proclaim your great deeds.” **(Psalm 145:4, 6)**

Praise be to God, who has not rejected my prayer or withheld His love from me! **(v. 20)**