

PSALM 86

(Supplication and Trust)

Psalm 86 provides one of the best descriptions of prayer in all the Bible.

1. “Incline thine ear O, Jehovah and answer me”

- Prayer is the earnest desire, opportunity and privilege of talking with God.
- “We should never utter one syllable of prayer, either in public or private until we are definitely conscious that we have come into the very presence of God and are actually talking to Him” (Reuben Torrey)

v.1 “I am afflicted and needy”

- Prayer is helplessness casting itself on a loving Father unlimited in power.

v.2 “Preserve my soul for I am a man who fears the Lord”

- Prayer is the earnest supplication of a person who hears and obeys the Lord and is therefore confident God will hear his pleas for help.

v.2 “Save thy servant who trusts in Thee”

- Prayer is putting all our hope and trust in the Lord.

v.3 “Be gracious to me O, Lord”

- Prayer is the realization that all God’s answers are God’s gifts. His responses are favors unmerited and undeserved.

v.3 “To Thee I cry all day long”

- Prayer is realizing God is our constant companion and friend in need.
- In prayer we can pour out our soul to God any time, any place about anything.

v.4 “Make glad the soul of thy servant”

- In prayer we recognize God as the only true source of joy and inner peace.

v.4 “To Thee, O Lord, I lift up my soul”

- In prayer we recognize God alone can help us.
- In prayer we acknowledge our own frailty and the weakness of others.

v.5 “For Thou, Lord, art good and ready to forgive”

- In prayer we appeal to the goodness and mercy of the Lord.
- We acknowledge our own sinfulness, His purity and His eagerness to forgive.

v.5 **"Abundant in lovingkindness to all who call upon Thee"**

- In prayer we realize God's goodness is extended to all who place their trust in the Lord.

v.6 **"Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer and give heed to the voice of my supplications"**

- Prayer is an earnest appeal to God.
- It is man humbling himself before God entreating His favor.
- It is a child crying to His Father.
- A servant seeking the help of His Master.

v.7 **"In the day of my trouble I will call upon Thee"**

- Prayer is the afflicted seeking deliverance from the Lord not man or things.

v.7 **"For Thou wilt answer me"**

- Prayer is confidence that God truly cares about man.
- Jehovah is personally interested in our welfare and wants to provide our needs.

v.8 **"There is no one like Thee, O Lord, Nor are there any works like Thine"**

- God is infinite in power and wisdom.
- Nothing is impossible for the Lord.
- All persons, all things pale in comparison to Him.

v.9 **"All nations whom Thou hast made shall come and worship before Thee, And they shall glorify Thy name"**

- Not only David, not only Israel but all nations should bow before Jehovah as their Lord and Creator.
- Worship of the Lord is the privilege and duty of all men.

v.10 **"For Thou are great and doest wondrous deeds; Thou alone art God"**

- God's wondrous deeds of the past are proof of His greatness.
- His greatness, goodness, and gracious acts of the past are proof of His ability and eagerness to help in the present.
- There is truly no one like Jehovah.