

Series: Pathway Through the Psalms

# HIS MERCY ENDURETH FOREVER

## PSALMS 136

Text: Psalms 136:1-3, 26

### **Psalm 136:1-3**

<sup>1</sup> O give thanks unto the LORD; for *he is* good: for his mercy *endureth* for ever. <sup>2</sup> O give thanks unto the God of gods: for his mercy *endureth* for ever. <sup>3</sup> O give thanks to the Lord of lords: for his mercy *endureth* for ever.

### **Psalm 136:26**

<sup>26</sup> O give thanks unto the God of heaven: for his mercy *endureth* for ever.

Introduction:

If we take the time to look around at our world, it is easy to get very discouraged. There are thousands of reasons to be sad tonight. However, as children of the King, we, ought to be excited, but often our services resembles a funeral service.

There is a statement repeated in this chapter – “His Mercy Endureth Forever. It is that the inspired the psalmist to encourage us to “give thanks.”

I want us to consider this evening as well as other things that should cause us to give thanks.

Note:

We should give thanks because:

Sermon Content:

## **1. HE IS FAITHFUL**

A. Faithfulness is part of His character.

### ***Deuteronomy 7:9***

*<sup>9</sup> Know therefore that the LORD thy God, he is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations;*

### ***Revelation 19:11***

*<sup>11</sup> And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war.*

1. God has never broken a promise

### ***1 Kings 8:56***

*<sup>56</sup> Blessed be the LORD, that hath given rest unto his people Israel, according to all that he promised: there*

*hath not failed one word of all his good promise, which he promised by the hand of Moses his servant.*

2. The faithfulness of God gives us confidence as we pray.

***Jeremiah 33:3***

*<sup>3</sup>Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not.*

Illustration:

It was May 7, and Roger Simms was hitchhiking his way home, having been discharged from the Army. He flashed his hitchhiking sign at a car, but almost lost hope for a ride when he noticed it was a black, sleek, new Cadillac. To his amazement the car stopped. As Roger entered the car from the passenger's side, he noticed that the driver was a handsome, well-dressed man, who appeared to be in his fifties.

"Going home for keeps?" asked the driver.

"Sure am," Roger said.

As the two conversed, Roger was able to find out that the driver's name was Hanover. Mr. Hanover owned and operated a business in Chicago—a rather successful business at that. The longer Roger talked to Mr. Hanover, the more impressed he felt to witness to

him about Christ. Finally, when they were only thirty minutes away from Roger's home, he got up the nerve to share Christ with Mr. Hanover, eventually asking him if he would like to receive Christ as his personal Savior. To Roger's amazement, the gentleman immediately pulled the Cadillac to the side of the road, bowed his head and received Christ. Mr. Hanover thanked Roger, and said, "This is the greatest thing that has ever happened to me."

Five years later, Roger had married and was the proud father of a two-year-old son, and even had a business of his own. While packing for a business trip to Chicago, Roger found Mr. Hanover's business card, given to him five years earlier. He decided he would look him up while in Chicago.

After arriving in Chicago, Roger looked up Hanover Enterprises. The receptionist there told him that it would be impossible to see Mr. Hanover, but that he could see Mrs. Hanover if he wished. He was ushered into a beautiful office where a keen-eyed woman greeted him. She extended her hand and said, "I understand you knew my husband."

"Yes. I was hitchhiking home after the war, and he gave me a lift."

"When was that?" Mrs. Hanover asked.

“It was May 7, the day I was discharged from the Army,” Roger said.

“Was there anything special about that day,” asked the lady. Roger hesitated for a moment.

“Yes ma’am. I shared the Gospel with Mr. Hanover. He pulled over to the side of the road and leaned over the steering wheel and wept. He gave his heart to Christ that day.”

With that, Mrs. Hanover suddenly began to weep. She wept so hard her whole body shook. When she regained her composure, she said, “I had prayed for my husband’s salvation for years. I believed God would save him.”

“And where is Mr. Hanover now,” asked Roger.

“He’s dead,” the lady said, struggling to speak. “He was killed in a car crash right after he dropped you off. He never got home.”

Barely able to speak through her sobs, Mrs. Hanover then said, “You see—I thought God had not kept His promise. I stopped living for God five years ago because I thought He had not kept His word!”

B. God is faithful even in our calamities.

**Psalm 119:75**

*<sup>75</sup> I know, O LORD, that thy judgments are right, and that thou in faithfulness hast afflicted me.*

It's terribly easy, in times of trouble and turmoil, to think that God has suddenly turned on us. But the psalmist realized that even when God allows affliction to come our way, He does so out of love and loyalty to us. The things that God often permits to happen in our lives are not always good. However, they work together for our ultimate good.

**Romans 8:28**

*<sup>28</sup> And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.*

Not only is God Faithful because of His Character, and in our Calamities but also:

C. God's Faithfulness is Continual

**Psalm 119:90**

*<sup>90</sup> Thy faithfulness is unto all generations: thou hast established the earth, and it abideth.*

**Malachi 3:6**

*<sup>6</sup> For I am the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of*

*Jacob are not consumed.*

**Hebrews 13:8**

*<sup>8</sup> Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.*

Understand:

D. God's faithfulness stems from His compassion

**Colossians 2:13**

*<sup>13</sup> And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses;*

**1 John 1:7**

*<sup>7</sup> But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.*

We should give thanks because God is Faithful but also:

## **2. HE IS FORGIVING**

In every verse in this chapter we are reminded that "His Mercy Endureth Forver."

If it were not for the mercy of God we would be men and women most miserable.

Note the dimension of God's mercy:

**Psalm 103:11-12**

*<sup>11</sup> For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is his mercy toward them that fear him. <sup>12</sup> As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.*

God's mercy is higher than the heaven, and is broad as the east is from the west.

- Our forgiveness is only through Christ.

**Acts 4:12**

*<sup>12</sup> Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.*

**1 John 2:2**

*<sup>2</sup> And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.*

- Our forgiveness is complete.

**Colossians 2:13**

*<sup>13</sup> And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses;*



### **1 John 1:7**

*<sup>7</sup> But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.*

We should give thanks because God is Faithful and Forgiving but lastly:

## **3. HE IS OUR FATHER**

Notice:

### A. We Are Addressed as His Children

#### **Romans 8:16**

*<sup>16</sup> The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:*

#### **1 John 3:2**

*<sup>2</sup> Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.*

Not only are we addressed as His children but note also:

## B. We Are Assured of His Care

### **Luke 12:6-7**

<sup>6</sup> Are not five sparrows sold for two farthings, and not one of them is forgotten before God? <sup>7</sup> But even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not therefore: ye are of more value than many sparrows.

### **Luke 12:22-28**

<sup>22</sup> *And he said unto his disciples, Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat; neither for the body, what ye shall put on. <sup>23</sup> The life is more than meat, and the body is more than raiment. <sup>24</sup> Consider the ravens: for they neither sow nor reap; which neither have storehouse nor barn; and God feedeth them: how much more are ye better than the fowls? <sup>25</sup> And which of you with taking thought can add to his stature one cubit? <sup>26</sup> If ye then be not able to do that thing which is least, why take ye thought for the rest? <sup>27</sup> Consider the lilies how they grow: they toil not, they spin not; and yet I say unto you, that Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. <sup>28</sup> If then God so clothe the grass, which is to day in the field, and to morrow is cast into the oven; how much more will he clothe you, O ye of little faith?*

Not only are we addressed as His children and assured of His care but note also:

## C. We Are Accompanied by His Companionship

### **Hebrews 13:5**

*<sup>5</sup> Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.*

Close:

God is worthy of praise because His mercy endureth forever.

God is Faithful, Forgiving, and desires to be our Father.