

## ***The Fear of God Part 19***

### ***Psalms 116 – Faithful Are Those Who Fear God***

***“1 I love the LORD, because he hath heard my voice and my supplications. 2 Because he hath inclined his ear unto me, therefore will I call upon him as long as I live. 3 The sorrows of death compassed me, and the pains of hell gat hold upon me: I found trouble and sorrow. 4 Then called I upon the name of the LORD; O LORD, I beseech thee, deliver my soul. 5 Gracious is the LORD, and righteous; yea, our God is merciful. 6 The LORD preserveth the simple: I was brought low, and he helped me. 7 Return unto thy rest, O my soul; for the LORD hath dealt bountifully with thee. 8 For thou hast delivered my soul from death, mine eyes from tears, and my feet from falling. 9 I will walk before the LORD in the land of the living. 10 I believed, therefore have I spoken: I was greatly afflicted: 11 I said in my haste, All men are liars. 12 What shall I render unto the LORD for all his benefits toward me? 13 I will take the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of the LORD. 14 I will pay my vows unto the LORD now in the presence of all his people. 15 Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints. 16 O LORD, truly I am thy servant; I am thy servant, and the son of thine handmaid: thou hast loosed my bonds. 17 I will offer to thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and will call upon the name of the LORD. 18 I will pay my vows unto the LORD now in the presence of all his people, 19 In the courts of the LORD'S house, in the midst of thee, O Jerusalem. Praise ye the LORD.” (Psalm 116:1-19 KJV)***

This is a thanksgiving psalm. It is penned by David upon God's gracious deliverance. David after he was anointed by the prophet Samuel to be a King over God's people, he faced many troubles and repeated persecution from Saul the previous king. The gracious God found faithfulness and gracious response in the soul of David as He called him to serve Him. **Those who fear God are grateful and gracious to all His love and mercies.**

***“1 I love the LORD, because he hath heard my voice and my supplications.” (Psalm 116:1 KJV)*** David responded to God's goodness and mercy with love, as he declared it publicly and to everyone when he said, ***“I love the LORD”***, and mentioned and explained why, ***“because he hath heard my voice and my supplications.”*** David explained that when he prayed and cried to God for mercy, God heard his cry and his supplication. David was so grateful that God paid attention to him when he was in troubles. People who fear God are so grateful and are so touched that God had heard them in their troubles. **Reflect that on yourself and count the times that God had heard your cry for mercy and came to rescue you; and make it a point to start to fear God and express your love to Him, not only in words but also by deeds and good works.**

***“2 Because he hath inclined his ear unto me, therefore will I call upon him as long as I live.” (Psalm 116:2 KJV)*** David was so appreciative that God turned His ear toward him and responded to his prayer. To what God did, David took the long life decision that he will call upon God as long as he lives. David announced his full trust and his full commitment to the only true God, The Almighty God, to call on Him and to depend fully, solely and exclusively on Him. Those who fear God they will not go and ask help from any one apart from the Lord our God. They are wise and precise and sure they will be handsomely rewarded for such attitude and decision. **Trust God fully, as He had turned His ear and heard you in times of trouble and came and saved you, then give your life fully to Him, and start to serve Him and do not call on others in times of your need, but only on Him.**

***“3 The sorrows of death compassed me, and the pains of hell gat hold upon me: I found trouble and sorrow.” (Psalm 116:3 KJV)*** David expounded more about his painful trials and experiences so that God would be glorified more in His testimony. David almost reached to death; the troubles and the sorrows that he passed through caused him severe pains which he described as the following: ***“the pains of hell gat hold upon me:”*** That means David was attacked by Satan and demons which had tried to injure him, and made him feel the painful hell.

Part of David gratefulness moved him to expound more of his trials in appreciation to what God did to Him. People who fear God are much grateful to all the mercies that they receive from Him. This testimony of David will not only magnify God and His power to restore and deliver those who call upon him, but in addition will increase the faith of others and God's people to fully trust God in times of troubles. **God in His Word want to encourage you to fully trust Him and rely on Him, that whatever trouble that you are passing and suffering God is able to deliver you and take you out even from the clutches of the evil one.** The gates of Hades shall not prevail against the Church of God as Jesus promise, ***“And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.” (Matthew 16:18 KJV)*** \* Therefore let us continue to stand firm with God and trust Him that He will not allow, even the power of darkness to prevail against us. \* And let us continue to testify about God's goodness to encourage others and increase their faith on Him, because faith come by hearing the Word of God as we can read here: ***“17 So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.” (Romans 10:17 KJV)***

***“4 Then called I upon the name of the LORD; O LORD, I beseech thee, deliver my soul.” (Psalm 116:4 KJV)*** David called on God for deliverance and the Lord saved him. **As you heard the Word of God and the testimony of David, and the testimony of others and God's church then be encouraged and take heart and call on the name of the Lord and ask Him in faith your request to grant you the victory and the deliverance from your troubles.**

David in response to what God did He said about God the following:-

***“5 Gracious is the LORD, and righteous; yea, our God is merciful.” (Psalm 116:5 KJV)*** Gracious, righteous, merciful and compassionate is the Lord. Those who fear God will describe God in such sufficient and satisfactory way. You will not find them grumbling, complaining and having grudges against God. **Now this message is for you; always see the good things that God had given to you and count your blessings and name them one by one, then you will be able to see and discover the great things that God had done to you.**

***“6 The LORD preserveth the simple: I was brought low, and he helped me.” (Psalm 116:6 KJV)*** David was not giving significance to himself when he said, ***“The LORD preserveth the simple:”*** Nothing was significant in David and nothing was impressive in David to motivate God to save him. But he was saved because God is good. Those who do not fear God they will point out that God's goodness was directed to them because they are good. But those who fear God they are humble, and they will point out that the goodness and the mercies of God merely because He is good and nothing is impressive in them. David testified about it in this way, ***“I was brought low, and he helped me.”*** David when he was brought low God saved him. David was not at all ashamed of his inadequacy. People who fear God are humble and simple and are

not ashamed to reveal their weaknesses and insufficiencies. **Therefore, humble yourself and do not be ashamed of confessing your weaknesses and inadequacies. “6 Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time: 7 Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.” (1 Peter 5:6-7 KJV)**

**“7 Return unto thy rest, O my soul; for the LORD hath dealt bountifully with thee.” (Psalm 116:7 KJV)** David here was experiencing a period of rest and peace after God’s deliverance. He was meditating, speaking to himself and enjoying the mercies and the goodness of God. **Those who fear God will be brought to a period of tranquility and peace where they are assured about the goodness of God in their lives. As you fear God then period of peace will come into your life and you will have rest roundabout from all your troubles and will be meditating on His goodness.**

David from that situation of rest and perfect peace, went forward and gave thanks to God in a way that he was describing in details the goodness of God in His life as we read here: **“8 For thou hast delivered my soul from death, mine eyes from tears, and my feet from falling.” (Psalm 116:8 KJV)** David testified that God had delivered his soul from death, his eyes was He freed from tears and his feet He protected from falling. Therefore he was once again alive and declaring that he will walk before the Lord and will live for no other reason but to serve God, **“9 I will walk before the LORD in the land of the living.” (Psalm 116:9 KJV)** **Listen now, when God revealed Himself to you, when God saved you and gave you eternal life and when God delivered you out of your troubles and solved your problems, the purpose of God behind all of that is that you will live for Him and you will start to serve Him. Therefore as you are meditating on the goodness of God and His mercies upon you then the time had come for you to make your commitment to live your life for God and that you start to serve Him.**

**“10 I believed, therefore have I spoken: I was greatly afflicted.” (Psalm 116:10 KJV)** David when he was faced with the repeated troubles and oppositions from Saul, he got a great faith from God that He can help him in his trouble, therefore he opened his mouth and expressed in prayer his present situation. **Therefore, trust God fully inspite of all the troubles that you are passing through, open your mouth and start to pray and cry to God trusting Him fully that He will come to save you and rescue you. Believe, He is just a prayer away from you.**

**“11 I said in my haste, All men are liars.” (Psalm 116:11 KJV)** When Samuel anointed David to be a King over Israel, David faced many opposition and troubles from Saul. Those troubles and opposition made David think wrongly and took a quick conclusion, that is why he said **“I said in my haste,”** thinking that what Samuel had told him was not correct and was not from God, therefore he said as conclusion **“All men are liars”**, thinking that Samuel lied to him. But when God finally brought forth to David what He was promised, David realized his haste and his wrong impression about what Samuel did to him and told him. **Don’t let the circumstances around you confuse you and make you think that the promises of God are far away from you, and make you take wrong conclusions. But as you fear God, you will continue to persevere in the trials and the walk through the narrow gate, then one day you will see all what you had promised from God’s Word will become true in your life.**

David also realized and finally discovered that his life was precious in the sight of God and it will not be an easy thing that God will allow the life of David to be ended up, that is why he said, **“15 Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints.” (Psalm 116:15 KJV)**

Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his faithful servants; those who live their lives for Him and honestly serve Him.

Those who fear God they will not die in a haphazard way, but they will be taken by God when they will finish the work and their service to God on earth. While the wicked, who are disobedient to God, death can take them at any moment, and they will depart.

**“12 What shall I render unto the LORD for all his benefits toward me?” (Psalm 116:12 KJV)** David out of gratefulness and thanksgiving to God he was pondering how He will return to God all the goodness that he had received from Him. **He was faithful to God and God wants you also to be faithful to Him; that you start to think how to return to God all His goodness to you. David reached into this conclusion and I pray that each one the message reaches to him or to her, will reach the following conclusions:-**

**A. “13 I will take the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of the LORD.” (Psalm 116:13 KJV)** The cup of salvation is to receive the salvation of God, and enter through the narrow gate and be willing to suffer for God. Taking the salvation of God through faith on Jesus and His work on the cross entails to walk through the narrow gate and be willing to suffer for Christ. Those who fear God are very careful to go through the ways of God and to live in abiding with God’s Word. Those who fear God delight in suffering, living and walking through the narrow gate, delighting in trials and persecution. While those who do not fear God, they are worldly in their living, moving through the wide gate and they do their best to bypass whatever suffering. **God as He saved you He called to deny yourself and your love to the world and leave behind your own plans and your own will, and surrender your life to Him and be willing to follow Him, serve Him and suffer for His cause as Jesus said in Matthew 16:24. “If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.”**

**“B. 14 I will pay my vows unto the LORD now in the presence of all his people.” (Psalm 116:14 KJV)** David committed himself to pay his vows to God and to fulfill all what he promised to God to do. Those who fear God are keen to abide with their commitment to God and what they had promised Him to do. Those who fear God when they are passing through hard time, as they pray and ask God deliverance they will also promise God to live and do His work and fulfill their obligations. When God would deliver them you find them spontaneously moving forward to fulfill what they promised to God. To the contrary, are those who do not fear God; when they are in troubles they will pray and ask God to help them, and they will promise God good things, but when God deliver them and save them from their troubles you will find them just moving away forgetting what they had promised God. But David insisted that he will pay his vows to God in the presence of His people, the church, as he said, **“18 I will pay my vows unto the LORD now in the presence of all his people, 19 In the courts of the LORD’S house, in the midst of thee, O Jerusalem. Praise ye the LORD.” (Psalm 116:18-19 KJV)** Those who fear God and who are faithful to Him, the church will witness how they are endeavoring to keep their commitment to Him. To the contrary of them, those who do not fear God, the church will witness how those people after they will receive what they wanted they are so swift and smart in escaping away from fulfilling their commitment and vows unto God.

**As for you, listen, be and behave like David; as God delivering you from troubles and saving your life, then continue to be with God; be faithful to Him, and start to fulfill your vows and all**

what you had promised God, in the midst of His church, and so you will be a good example to others to follow the right attitude of faithfulness and serving God; so that others will be encouraged with such and move forward to serve God, and in such the Lord shall bless you and add to you more blessings.

**C. “16 O LORD, truly I am thy servant; I am thy servant, and the son of thine handmaid: thou hast loosed my bonds.” (Psalm 116:16 KJV)** David committed himself to serve God who delivered him out of all his troubles and loosed him from his chains. David committed himself to serve God as his mother was serving God. Mothers have great impact in raising children who fear God. Sure David’s mother trained him, disciplined him and taught him how to serve God. Parents who fear God, they not only serve God but they discipline their children. We can also say it in this way: Parents who fear God they serve God also by disciplining their children. **Therefore, you ought to discipline your children and raise them in the fear of God and that will be your expression and the sign that you fear God, and that will be part of your ministry and service unto God.**

**“O LORD, truly I am thy servant; I am thy servant,”** Two times David said to God that he is His servant. Those who fear God they will continue to serve God after God deliver them and save them from their troubles. But those who do not fear God, after they are delivered by God from their chains, you find them serving idols; serving their own desire, will and plans; you find them serving man and serving the world, and not serving the Lord. **Therefore, make now your commitment to God, as He delivered you and saved you; that you will continue to serve Him and do and live His will and the plan that He had for you in your life.**

**D. “17 I will offer to thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and will call upon the name of the LORD.” (Psalm 116:17 KJV)** David committed himself to be grateful to God and that he will call on the name of God in whatever trial or struggle that he will pass through. Those who fear God will endeavor to show their gratefulness to God and they will call only on God and not on other gods, whenever they are in need or in trouble. For them God is not an option but is the only option. But those who do not fear God are ungrateful and they value people and powers and go and ask help from them; for them God is one of the option but not the only option. **Therefore, make now your commitment to God, as He delivered you and saved you; that you will call only on His name, Jesus, in whatever time you are in trouble and in need. Make God the only option in your life and God sure shall bless you and prosper you, for those who trust on Him they will never be put to shame.**

**My dear and beloved:** Are you a person who fears God? Are you faithful and grateful to Him? Do you fulfill your vows toward God? Are you disciplining your children? Are you walking through the narrow gate and gladly receiving suffering? God through this message is helping you to discover yourself in a better way. The things that you are unfaithful in, you need to repent, and to turn from your sins and start to fear God and to be faithful to Him and to serve Him.

**Make it a point to start to fear God and express your love to Him not only in words but also by good works. Be of sound faith, take heart and call on the name of the Lord and ask Him in faith your request to grant you the victory and the deliverance from your troubles.**

Give your life fully to God, surrender your will fully to Him, and start to serve Him and do not call on others in times of your need, but only on Jesus. Fully trust God and rely on Him, that whatever trouble that you are passing and suffering, God is able to deliver you and take out even from the clutches of the evil one. Continue to stand firm with God and trust Him that He will not allow, even the power of darkness to prevail against you.

Count your blessings and name them one by one. Always see the good things that God had given to you, so you will be able to see and discover the great things that God had done to you. Continue to testify about God’s goodness to encourage others and increase their faith on Him.

Continue to persevere in the trials and walk through the narrow gate; deny yourself and your love to the world. Leave behind your own plans and your own will, be willing to follow Him, serve Him and suffer for His cause.

Be willing to discipline your children and to raise them in the fear of God and that will be one of your ministry and service unto God and a good example for others to follow.

Fulfill your vows and all what you had promised God in the midst of His church, and so you will be a good testimony, so that others will be encouraged with such and move forward to serve God, and in such the Lord shall bless you and add to you more blessings.

Let us pray . . . .

**My Prayer:** *Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus, who died on the cross for my sins and rose from the death to give me eternal life. Lord thank you for your Word that exposed to me my sins and made me see myself clearly. Lord thank you for the teaching and the correction that I received in this message. Lord thank you for your love, mercy and grace that I received from you along the years of my life.*

*Confess and renounce your sins now to God. Renounce your selfishness, your pride, your love to the world, your boasting and doing your own will and plan. Confess the sin of not reading your Bible, and renounce your lack of trust in God. Repent of the sin of not disciplining your children. Repent of your unfaithfulness and ungratefulness to God. Repent of your grumbling, complaining and having grudges against God. Repent of your non willingness to serve God and suffer for His cause, and being a bad example to others, etc.*

*Lord forgive me, I repent of the following sins \_\_\_\_\_.*

*Lord I cry to you; Lord help me and deliver me from the following problem: \_\_\_\_\_.*

*Lord I cry to you; deliver me from the following evil doers \_\_\_\_\_.*

*Count now your blessings and name them one by one. Lord thank you for the following blessings that I received from you: \_\_\_\_\_.*

*Lord I commit myself Lord to pay my vows and all what I had committed myself to do for you. Lord I commit myself to live in the fear of you and in the fear of your Word. Lord I commit myself to be a person who is grateful to all what you had done in my life and had given to me. Lord I commit myself to call only on your name Jesus in times of my troubles. Lord I commit myself to start to serve you and to testify about you and to be a good example to others. Lord sustain me by your grace and help me to be totally changed, to be the person that you delight to see. This is my prayer in Jesus name, Amen.*

*Lord, thank you for my Brothers and Sisters who repented and committed their lives once again to fear you and walk in your ways. Lord restore them once again to you and use them to serve you. Lord save those among them who are in troubles and deliver them from their enemies. Lord help them to reproduce more fruit of the Holy Spirit so people will see Jesus in their lives. Lord protect them and provide for them and make their lives good testimony to others, and make them a blessing and service providers to others.*

*Lord as a church, we thank you for all the miracles and the wonders that you did and doing in the midst of us. Lord bless us as your church and uphold us with your grace and mercy. Lord prepare us for your coming that when you will come you will take us with you. Lord refill us once again with the Holy Spirit and give us the spiritual gifts that we need in our lives to go on and serve you. Lord enable us to reach new people with the gospel of Jesus and to start to teach them your Word. Lord lead us to make new disciples and train new workers and to plant new Bible studies and congregations for the church. Lord fulfill the vision of the church, 'Multiplication in peace with implementing the whole will of God.' Lord bless us, enlarge our territory, let your hand be with us and free us from harm so that we will not feel pain. May the grace of the Lord Jesus and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all in Jesus name, Amen.*

The Fear of God Part 19. Psalm 116 – Faithful Are Those Who Fear God. Psalm 116:1-19. Matthew 16:18. 1 Peter 5:6-7. Matthew 16:24.

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