

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

PSALMS: The Prayers & Praises of God's People - Psalm 116:1-19 - Our Prayers; God's Answers; Our Rightful Responses - 07.21.2024

1. Is there anything specific from this message that the Lord has impressed upon your heart?
If so, what is it & how do you feel the Lord calling you to respond?
2. Can you think of a time when you felt truly desperate in your life - perhaps for the Lord to move in your heart or circumstances?
What was the situation that led to you feeling (or actually being) desperate, and how did you pursue a solution?
Did you seek the Lord in that situation to help you get through it; if so, how did He work in you &/or your circumstances?
Did the Lord answer your desperate cries in the ways you'd hoped/expected or not? How did you respond then?
Do you find yourself in a desperate state now? If so, what can you learn from this Psalmist about what to do?
3. Psalm 116 is a part of the Egyptian Psalms (aka "Halal Psalms" or "Praise Psalms) which are Psalm 113-Psalm 118.
As such, this Psalm was sang as a regular part of the corporate worship of God's people (& The Passover Seder):
How would the words of Psalm 116 encourage the people of God in their worship of Him; how does it encourage you?
What impact does the fact that Jesus shared these words with His disciples on the night before He would go to the cross have?
How does the temporal experience of the Psalmist compare with the eternal realities of the Kingdom of God in Christ?
4. In reading Psalm 116, it's clear that the Psalmist loves the Lord because of who is and His merciful & gracious answers to him.
Why is it so important for us to understand who we are and who God is when it comes to how we approach Him?
How does God's answer(s) to the Psalmist result in the Psalmist responding in a way that reveals his trust in the Lord?
What does he say that he will do in response to the benefits of the Lord unto him?
How does this response reveal a posture of humility, gratitude, and willing servitude unto the Lord?
As you consider your posture toward the Lord, would you say these characteristics are evident in your life too?
How can you cultivate a lifestyle of service unto the Lord and exhorts other believers to do the same?
How does all of this end in the praise of the Lord, as the Psalmist declares at the end of this Psalm?
5. Below are the "Today's Takeaways" from the sermon. Do any of these particularly encourage, convict, challenge, you, & if so, how?
The Lord listens to those who earnestly seek Him!
Don't neglect the gift of communing with God!
God's care for us is evident in His response to us!
God doesn't ignore His people & their troubles!
God's merciful deliverance is available in Jesus!
As we trust in Jesus we're saved & made alive!
We all must respond to ALL that God has done!
His servants respond with thanksgiving & praise!