

*The Fear of God*  
*Part 16*  
*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)*

*“1 I love the LORD, for he heard my voice; he heard my cry for mercy. 2 Because he turned his ear to me, I will call on him as long as I live. 3 The cords of death entangled me, the anguish of the grave came over me; I was overcome by distress and sorrow. 4 Then I called on the name of the LORD: “LORD, save me!” 5 The LORD is gracious and righteous; our God is full of compassion. 6 The LORD protects the unwary; when I was brought low, he saved me. 7 Return to your rest, my soul, for the LORD has been good to you. 8 For you, LORD, have delivered me from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling, 9 that I may walk before the LORD in the land of the living. 10 I trusted in the LORD when I said, “I am greatly afflicted”; 11 in my alarm I said, “Everyone is a liar.” 12 What shall I return to the LORD for all his goodness to me? 13 I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD. 14 I will fulfill my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people. 15 Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his faithful servants. 16 Truly I am your servant, LORD; I serve you just as my mother did; you have freed me from my chains. 17 I will sacrifice a thank offering to you and call on the name of the LORD. 18 I will fulfill my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people, 19 in the courts of the house of the LORD—in your midst, Jerusalem. Praise the LORD.” (Psalm 116:1-19 NIV)*

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 faithful 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. 1 I love the LORD, for he heard my voice; he heard my cry for mercy.* David responded to God's goodness with love, as he declare it publicly and to everyone *I love the LORD*, and he

mentioned and explained why, *because he hath heard my voice and my supplications; for he heard my voice; he heard my cry for mercy.* David explained that when he prayed and cried to God for mercy, God heard his cry and his supplication. He is so grateful that God paid attention to him when he was in trouble. People who fear God are so grateful and are so touched that God had heard them in their troubles.

*2 Because he hath inclined his ear unto me, therefore will I call upon him as long as I live. 2 Because he turned his ear to me, I will call on him as long as I live.* David is 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 One God, The Almighty God, to call and 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 they will be sure handsomely rewarded for such stand and decision.

*3 The sorrows of death compassed me, and the pains of hell gat hold upon me: I found trouble and sorrow. 3 The cords of death entangled me, the anguish of the grave came over me; I was overcome by distress and sorrow.* David expounds more of his painful trials and experiences so that God would be gloried more in his testimony. Part of David gratefulness moved him to expound more of his trial in appreciation to what God did to Him. People who fear God are much grateful to all the mercies that they receive from Him.

*4 Then called I upon the name of the LORD; O LORD, I beseech thee, deliver my soul. 4 Then I called on the name of the LORD: “LORD, save me!”* He merely called on God for deliverance and the Lord save him. In response to that David said about God the following:-

*5 Gracious is the LORD, and righteous; yea, our God is merciful. 5 The LORD is gracious and righteous; our God is full of compassion.* 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 grumbling, complaining and speaking with grudges against God.

*6 The LORD preserveth the simple: I was brought low, and he helped me. 6 The LORD protects the unwary; when I was brought low, he saved me.* David is not giving significance to himself when he said, *The LORD preserveth the simple: The LORD protects the unwary;* Nothing was significant in David and nothing was impressive in David to motivate God to save. 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 will point out the goodness and the mercies of God merely because He is good and nothing is impressive in them. David testifies about it in this way, *I was brought low, and he helped me. when I was brought low, he saved me.* He is 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,

*7 Return unto thy rest, O my soul; for the LORD hath dealt bountifully with thee. 7 Return to your rest, my soul, for the LORD has been good to you.* David here is experiencing a period of rest and peace after God's deliverance. He is meditating, speaking to himself and enjoying the mercies 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. And from that situation of rest and perfect peace he would go forward and give thanks to God in a way that he is describing in details the goodness of God in His life; **8 For thou hast delivered my soul from death, mine eyes from tears, and my feet from falling. 8 For you, LORD, have delivered me from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling,** His soul was delivered from death, his eyes was freed from tears and his feet was protected from falling. Therefore he is now once again alive and declaring that he will walk before the Lord and will live to serve Him, **9 I will walk before the LORD in the land of the living; 9 that I may walk before the LORD in the land of the living.**

**10 I believed, therefore have I spoken: I was greatly afflicted: 10 I trusted in the LORD when I said, "I am greatly afflicted";** David when he was faced with the repeated troubles and opposition from Saul he got a great faith from God that He can help him in his trouble, therefore he open his mouth and expressed in prayer his present situation.

**11 I said in my haste, All men are liars. 11 in my alarm I said, "Everyone is a liar."** When Samuel anointed David to be a King over Israel, David faced many opposition and troubles from Saul. These troubles and opposition made David think wrongly and take a quick conclusion, **"I said in my haste,"** that what Samuel had told him is not correct and is not from God, therefore he said **All men are liars, "Everyone is a liar."** David when God finally brought forth to David what he was promised, He realized his haste and his wrong impression about what Samuel did to him and told him. David also realized 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, **15 Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints. 15 Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his faithful servants.**

**12 What shall I render unto the LORD for all his benefits toward me? 12 What shall I return to the LORD for all his goodness to me?** David out of gratefulness and thanksgiving to God he was pondering how He will return to God all the goodness that he received from Him. He reached into this conclusion:

- A- **13 I will take the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of the LORD. 13 I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD.** The cup of salvation is to receive the salvation of God, and enter through the narrow way 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 way 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 through the narrow way. While those who do not fear God, they are worldly in their living moving through the wide way and they do their best to bypass whatever suffering.
- B- **14 I will pay my vows unto the LORD now in the presence of all his people. 14 I will fulfill my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people.** David committed himself to pay to God and to fulfill all what he promises 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 trouble they will pray and ask God to help them, and they will promise God good thing, but when God deliver them you will just find them moving away forgetting what they promised God. **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. 18 I will fulfill my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people, 19 in the courts of the house of the LORD— in your midst, Jerusalem. Praise the LORD.** 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 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 fulfill their commitment and vows unto God.

- C- **16 O LORD, truly I am thy servant; I am thy servant, and the son of thine handmaid: thou hast loosed my bonds. 16 Truly I am your servant, LORD; I serve you just as my mother did; you have freed me from my chains.** David committed himself to serve God who delivered him out of his chains. David committed himself to serve God as his mother was serving God. Mothers have great impact in raising up children who fear God. Sure David's mother trained him and taught him how to serve God. Those who fear God they will continue to serve God after the deliverance of God. But those who do not fear God, after they are delivered by God from their chains, you find them serving their own desire will and plans, you find them serving man and serving the world, and not serving the Lord.
- D- **17 I will offer to thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and will call upon the name of the LORD. 17 I will sacrifice a thank offering to you and call on the name of the LORD.** David committed himself to be grateful to God and to call on 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 not call only on God whenever they are in need. 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.

**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 walking in the narrow way and gladly receiving suffering? God through this message will help 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 as you agree to 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 exposing to me my sins and makes me see myself clearly. Forgive me Lord my ungratefulness and my lack of faithfulness toward you. Lord I repent of the following sins \_\_\_\_\_ . I commit myself Lord to pay my vows, to serve you and be a person who is grateful to all what you had done in my life and had given to me. Lord sustain me by your grace and help me to be totally change, to be the person that you delight to see. This is my prayer in Jesus name, Amen.*

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## The Bread Of Life

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