

## **FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 3**

### **FULL ASSURANCE AND PURITY OF HEART**

#### **Psalm 86**

As David cried out to the Lord in a time of distress, he did so because he had full assurance of God's power and promise to answer. His prayer was not an "I hope He hears me" or "I hope He will answer" but rather a knowing that God would hear and answer his call. "I call on You in the day of my distress, for You will answer me. Lord, there is no one like you among the gods and there are no works like Yours." (Psalm 86:7, 8) He not only knew of God's faithful works but he knew his own life was in the right position with God to receive God's answer to his time of distress.

God always knows our heart even more than we do ourselves, but to remind ourselves the reasons we come to God in distress can be a good thing just as David does in this prayer. His request was not just to have relief alone but rather throughout his prayer (from his heart) came the reasons he would come before a God Who is not like any other. As we look at a few of his reasons, it is also advantageous for us to evaluate our own times of distress and the reasons why God should answer us as well.

1. He first admits that he was poor and needy at this time. Even in the good times, this is a good position to be in for it indicates our need for God on a daily basis...that He is our vital necessity.

2. Because he was faithful, holy and completely trusted God, he was in the right heart position for God to hear and answer.

3. He reminded God that he didn't turn in another direction for help first but God was the One he would turn to first (verses 3, 4). He knew God was kind and ready to forgive if forgiveness was needed.

David goes on to tell God why he had this full assurance of faith in Him.

1. There is no one who works like God (verse 8).

2. He knew from experience and what God had done in times past that He was a God who performed wonders (verse 10). Therefore, there was nothing too hard for Him.

3. God had demonstrated His faithful love to him and he had seen God's deliverance in the past (verse 13). Therefore, that faithful love was unlimited.

4. God had demonstrated His compassion and graciousness by being long-suffering (slow to anger) and abounding in mercy, loving kindness and truth (verse 15).

5. David's desire was that his enemies see God's power and goodness (verse 17).

That heart that David reveals of himself in this prayer is the heart God responds to...one that has full assurance of Who He is and what He can do. David desired continual instruction from God so he could be even more faithful. Therefore, David was also of a teachable heart. The bottom line was that he wanted an undivided loyalty to God alone. As God searches our own hearts, may He find us with that full assurance of faith and trust in Him...knowing He is our vital necessity. Jesus told us in Matthew 5:8 that "The pure in heart are blessed, for they will see God."