

When You've Been Delivered

Psalm 116

BACKGROUND

The purpose of this Psalm is to Praise God for His deliverance and to encourage others to take hope. Public acknowledgement of God's goodness is expected and exhorted.

Verse 13...The text of the psalm required an occasion when a cup and a sacrifice figured in the rituals of celebration. It found two closely connected occasions. The first was the celebration of Passover. Psalm 116 is the fourth in the sequence of psalms, "the Egyptian Hallel," that were read during the course of the Passover meal. According to the Mishna reporting on the way the meal was ordered, four cups were raised and blessed in its progress. Psalms 115—118 were recited in connection with the fourth cup, which supplied a ritual reference for "the cup of salvation." Introduced in this way, the psalm's language is turned into thanksgiving for the salvation celebrated at Passover. The psalm becomes the thanksgiving of every participant in Passover who thereby acknowledges that each was delivered in the salvation of Exodus.¹

God Delivers an Individual in great trouble.

An individual in _____ .

vv. 1, 3, 4, 8, 11.

The actual situation of distress envisaged is not clearly described, except that it represented a threat to life, vv. 3, 8, 15, and involved human infidelity, v 11.²

Doing the _____ in great trouble,

vv. 1, 2, 4,

Confidently calling upon the Lord

V 6, with "simple faith"

See Luke 18:17

Having _____ in the LORD.

He knew his Lord well

V 5, 6

Gracious³ and righteous

The first stresses the undeserved character of the help given, the second the energy with which God maintains His honor according to His covenant obligation to His people. He is also marked by a deep sympathy for the one in need—"merciful."⁴

Merciful, full of compassion

See above.

He knew the Lord's attitudes towards the _____

¹ Mays, *Psalms*, p.371.

² Allen, *Psalms*, p. 114

³ See Also Psalm 103:8 Heb. חַנּוּן "gracious" refers to the relationship between master and servant, (cf. 27:7, 9; 86:2—4; 102:14—15).

⁴ Leupold, *Psalms*, pp. 805, 806.

The Lord tends to prolong the live of those who live for his Glory.

See verse 8,9, 15

The psalmist has learned by experience how reluctant Yahweh is to allow the premature death of those who are united to him in covenant relationship, and how quickly he rushes to avert such a tragedy (cf. 72:14).⁵ See also Psalm 115:17, 18

Allen translates v 15=

Yahweh counts too costly the death of his lieges (saints).

Perhaps reflected in Paul’s writings in Phil 1:21-26

Doubtless in Eph 6:2-3.

How the individual responds to great deliverance.

Public, unashamed _____, 13-14, 18-19

Vows were unnecessary on OT, but allowed.

Public _____ offerings, v 17

Joyful _____, 16

Service to God is perfect freedom.

Continued _____, v 2 How could I doubt again?

_____, v 1

The word *bhā*: Gilderstone makes this comment: It indicates desire, inclination, or affection, in some passages “intimacy and affection, the cleaving of soul to soul is implied.”⁶

Here love does five things:⁷

1. Calls on the Name of the Lord— calls the Beloved by name	2. Rests in the beloved, v 7 freed from distress and anguish	3. Lives always as if in the presence of the beloved (v. 9). It keeps the LORD always present to memory and will.	
4. Love fulfills its vows to the beloved (vv. 14, 18). Promises made are promises kept.	5. love serves the beloved, v 16		
Who is God?	What has he said?	What has he done?	What does that mean to me?

⁵ Allen, *Psalms*, pp 115, 116.

⁶ Gilderstone, *Synonyms of the Old Testament*, p. 110. See 111 for *dsj*.

⁷ Mays, *Psalms*, pp. 370, 371