

# Watching God Work

## Psalms 66

### **Psalm 66:1-20 (NASB)**

<sup>1</sup> “Shout joyfully to God, all the earth;

<sup>2</sup> Sing the glory of His name; Make His praise glorious.

<sup>3</sup> Say to God, "How awesome are Your works! Because of the greatness of Your power Your enemies will give feigned obedience to You.

<sup>4</sup> “All the earth will worship You, And will sing praises to You; They will sing praises to Your name.” Selah.

<sup>5</sup> Come and see the works of God, *Who is* awesome in *His* deeds toward the sons of men.

<sup>6</sup> He turned the sea into dry land; They passed through the river on foot; There let us rejoice in Him!

<sup>7</sup> He rules by His might forever; His eyes keep watch on the nations; Let not the rebellious exalt themselves. Selah.

<sup>8</sup> Bless our God, O peoples, And sound His praise abroad,

<sup>9</sup> Who keeps us in life And does not allow our feet to slip.

<sup>10</sup> For You have tried us, O God; You have refined us as silver is refined.

<sup>11</sup> You brought us into the net; You laid an oppressive burden upon our loins.

<sup>12</sup> You made men ride over our heads; We went through fire and through water, Yet You brought us out into *a place of abundance*.

<sup>13</sup> I shall come into Your house with burnt offerings; I shall pay You my vows,

<sup>14</sup> Which my lips uttered And my mouth spoke when I was in distress.

<sup>15</sup> I shall offer to You burnt offerings of fat beasts, With the smoke of rams; I shall make *an offering of bulls with male goats*. Selah.

<sup>16</sup> Come *and* hear, all who fear God, And I will tell of what He has done for my soul.

<sup>17</sup> I cried to Him with my mouth, And He was extolled with my tongue.

<sup>18</sup> If I regard wickedness in my heart, The Lord will not hear;

<sup>19</sup> But certainly God has heard; He has given heed to the voice of my prayer.

<sup>20</sup> Blessed be God, Who has not turned away my prayer Nor His lovingkindness from me.”

The Lord’s fingerprints can be detected all throughout history. At times, His work is dramatically obvious—like parting the Red Sea—but other times, it’s unnoticeable to our senses. Our lack of perception, however, never impedes His activities. He keeps working whether we’re aware of it or not, and blessings await those who develop the spiritual discernment to see what He is doing.

Preconceived ideas about how the Lord works can be a significant hindrance to perception. When He answers our prayers, we rejoice and readily acknowledge His active intervention on our behalf. But what if He doesn’t give us what we request? Too often we then conclude He’s not doing anything.

But in today's passage, the psalmist recognizes that God works in a variety of ways—sometimes with a great deliverance ([Psalm 66:5-6](#)) and sometimes through painful situations ([Psalm 66:10-12](#)).

**Psalm 66:5-6 (NASB)**

<sup>5</sup>“Come and see the works of God, *Who is awesome in His deeds toward the sons of men.*

<sup>6</sup>He turned the sea into dry land; They passed through the river on foot; There let us rejoice in Him!”

**Psalm 66:10-12 (NASB)**

<sup>10</sup>“For You have tried us, O God; You have refined us as silver is refined.

<sup>11</sup>You brought us into the net; You laid an oppressive burden upon our loins.

<sup>12</sup>You made men ride over our heads; We went through fire and through water, Yet You brought us out into *a place of abundance.*”

Another problem that can prevent us from seeing God's hand in our life is inattention. The demands of a busy lifestyle claim our time and concentration, leaving little room for quiet moments in His presence. Without periods of meditation and prayer, our spiritual senses become dull. But those who read Scripture regularly will learn to recognize the Lord's activity in their life, because He always acts in accordance with His Word.

Eyes focused on the Lord are open to a new perspective. Your faith will grow as you begin to discern His activity in your life. The joy and excitement of seeing His involvement in both big and small areas will motivate you to praise and thank Him, even in the hard times.