

END OF PSALM 116

You are Psalms

Some people think you never get discouraged, but the fact is, when you do, you know where to run. Your prayers are open and honest because you realize that God already knows your heart, He's just waiting to hear you spill it. And when you do, what starts out as heavy ends up becoming a song of praise. You may struggle... and often you do... but each time, you grow in your understanding of God's faithfulness. You're just a song waiting to happen.

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PSALMS (SONGS OF PRAISE)

TRUST
IN THE
LORD *and do good;
dwell in the land and
enjoy safe pasture.*
PSALM 36: 3

PSALM NUMBER: 116

All nations are called upon to praise God for His mercy and truth.

1. O praise the Lord, all ye nations: praise him, all ye people.
2. For his mercy is confirmed upon us: and the truth of the Lord remaineth forever.

The Psalms are songs of praise and cover a period of about 1000 years, from the time of Moses (ca. 1400 B.C.) to the Israelites' return from exile (ca. 450 B.C.). They deal with selected events of that period and provide us with the thoughts and feelings of those who went through the experiences recorded. After being made a Cardinal by Pope Clement VIII, Saint Robert Bellarmine, prepared for posterity his very own commentary on each of the Psalms. Enclosed are his interpretations on each of the Psalms.

PSALM NUMBER: 116

EXPLANATION OF THE PSALM

1. "O praise the Lord, all ye nations: praise him all ye people." He addresses the whole Church, and exhorts it to praise God. "All ye nations" is directed to the converted Gentiles, who are named first by reason of their being in the majority, and the people nearer those of the Jews who had been converted to the faith; and the apostles themselves, in alluding to a similar expression and the second Psalm, "why have the Gentiles raged, and the people meditated vain things," apply the former to the Gentiles, and the latter to the Jews.

2. "For his mercy is confirmed upon us: and the truth of the Lord remaineth forever." The reason assigned to praising God is, "for his mercy is confirmed on us" by the arrival of the Messiah to Jews and Gentiles; "and the truth of the Lord remaineth forever;" but the Church was established, "against which the gates of hell shall not prevail," and his kingdom was established, of which there will be no end.