

August 12, 2023

The Lord wants you to live in His liberty and freedom.

Ps. 116:1-2 *I love the LORD, for He heard my voice; He heard my cry for mercy. Because He turned His ear to me, I will call on Him as long as I live. (NIV)*

Grateful - definition - (Merriam-Webster Dictionary): appreciative of benefits received; expressing gratitude; glad, obliged, thankful. With this in mind, I wonder how grateful we are to the LORD? The Psalmist here is proclaiming his gratefulness to the LORD for listening to his call and turning His attention to him. He has experienced the grateful love of the Father.

I wonder how truly grateful we are to the LORD, or do we just take all that He has done for us for granted? Real gratefulness would typically have an action attached. If we are grateful, we would not only be thankful in heart, but also obedient in action. How foolish we would be to thank the LORD for listening to our prayers and yet be cold towards His supplication. He is not some waiter, waiting for our order. He is our loving Father Who loves us more than we could ever comprehend. He has turned His ear or attention to us because He desires to be our provider; our healer; our very present help in times of trouble.

He deserves our complete allegiance; our hearts should be set to follow His lead. The Psalmist knew, that because of the LORD's faithfulness, he could always call upon Him for whatever the needs he had were. We surely need to be grateful for the faithfulness of our LORD and His loving care for us. We must trust God completely and worship Him wholly. Our statement of faith should be like the prophet Jeremiah in **Lam. 3:22-24** *Because of the LORD's great love we are not consumed, for His compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness. I say to myself, "The LORD is my portion; therefore I will wait for Him."* (NIV)

Dear LORD, I am so grateful for salvation; for Your unconditional love; for Your mercy and grace; and for Your forgiveness of my sin. Instead, You poured out my judgement upon the sinless Son of God, Jesus. Help me to be more and more grateful every day of my life. In Jesus Name, Amen