

Psalm 86:8–13

⁸ Among the gods there is none like You, O Lord; Nor are there any works like Your works.

⁹ All nations whom You have made Shall come and worship before You, O Lord, And shall glorify Your name.

¹⁰ For You are great, and do wondrous things; You alone are God.

¹¹ Teach me Your way, O LORD; I will walk in Your truth; Unite my heart to fear Your name.

¹² I will praise You, O Lord my God, with all my heart, And I will glorify Your name forevermore.

¹³ For great is Your mercy toward me, And You have delivered my soul from the depths of Sheol.

“Teach Me Your Way”
Psalm 86:8-13

INTRO:

In the first part of this Psalm we met David pleading with God because he felt the pressures of his enemies. He is sure God will answer because of Who God is. **Verses 8-10** are a celebration of God’s greatness and sovereignty. **Verse 11**, outlines David’s application of God’s Sovereignty in his life. Finally, **verses 12-13**, are David’s vows to God because of Who God is and what He has done.

I. Sovereignty (How Great Is Our God) (Psalm 86:8-10)

II. An Application of that Sovereignty to Our Lives (Psalm 86:11)

III. The Result of Submitting to God’s Rule (Psalm 86:12-13)

I. Sovereignty (How Great Is Our God) (Psalm 86:8-10)

Psalm 86:8-10 *“Among the gods there is none like You, O Lord; Nor are there any works like Your works. All nations whom You have made Shall come and worship before You, O Lord, And shall glorify Your name. For You are great, and do wondrous things; You alone are God.”*

A. You remember the last time we visited **Psalm 86**, David’s prayer Psalm, we listen as David pleaded with God for answers to His prayer. We noted that David did not plead because he doubted that God heard him. His pleas were a recognition that

God was the source of all blessings and how import his efforts to please the LORD were. As we come to our text in **verses 8-13** we find the source of David's confidence the sovereignty of God.

B. The word **"Sovereignty"** means **God rules over all of His creation**. David sings of God's greatness and the result of that greatness.

1. First, our LORD is unique.

v.8 *"Among the gods there is none like You, O Lord; Nor are there any works like Your works."*

Our God differs from other so called gods in several ways. Our God is the only true and living God.

Isaiah 43:10-11 *"You are My witnesses," says the LORD, 'And My servant whom I have chosen, That you may know and believe Me, And understand that I am He. Before Me there was no God formed, Nor shall there be after Me. I, even I, am the LORD, And besides Me there is no savior."*

2. Second, Our God can do what no one else can do.

v.8b *"Nor are there any works like Your works"*

The works our LORD does only He can do. The term here used elsewhere in the Old Testament to speak of works of divine deliverance.

C. The greatest thing about God which gives David his confidence is that God rules over all peoples.

vs.9-10 *"All nations whom You have made Shall come and worship before You, O Lord, And shall glorify Your name. For You are great, and do wondrous things; You alone are God."*

We met the word **"nations"** before. The word means **all ethnic groups**. Most notably the Gentiles (non-Jews). All peoples will someday fall at His feet and acknowledge that He is Lord and ruler of all. They will acknowledge His greatness.

II. An Application of that Sovereignty to Our Lives (Psalm 86:11)

Psalm 86:11 *"Teach me Your way, O LORD; I will walk in Your truth; Unite my heart to fear Your name."*

A. How do we apply the fact that God is sovereign? How do we apply that He rules the world and all in it? David's application has three parts. First, David asks that God will teach him. **"Teach me Your way, O LORD."** This request appears several times in the **Psalms**. For example, in **Psalm 27:11** it says, **"Teach me Your way, O LORD, And lead me in a smooth path, because of my enemies."**

If God knows all things, is all wise, and His desires will be done in the end, then the wise person asks God to teach him the LORD's way. Because God is sovereign we will desire to know His will. We want to be taught by God.

B. Second, because David knew God was great and ruled over all, he wanted to commit ahead of time to do what God wanted him to do. ***"I will walk in Your truth."*** David said, Show me what to do and I will do it. David wanted to do the deeds God wanted him to do. He was committing all the habits of his life to God. David desired to live the Bible in all he was and did. Because David was obsessed with God, he was obsessed with God's truth.

C. Third, David recognized his greatest need was that God would unite his rebellious heart to knowing Who God was and being rightly related to Him. ***"Unite my heart to fear Your name."*** Derek Kidner wrote: *"The last line, 'unite my heart to fear thy name, is a penetrating climax, confessing in a single phrase the disintegrated state of man."* David understood a truth which several passages in the Bible tell us. In

Jeremiah 32:39, the LORD promised,

"Then I will give them one heart and one way, that they may fear Me forever, for the good of them and their children after them."

We see this concept in the New Testament in **James 1:5-8**,

"If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways."

The issue is we want what we want, and we also want what He wants. One of the greatest blessings we can receive is to be given a mind and heart that wants only to do His will, nothing more, nothing less, and nothing else.

III. The Result of Submitting to God's Rule (Psalm 86:12-13)

vs.12-13 ***"I will praise You, O Lord my God, with all my heart, And I will glorify Your name forevermore. For great is Your (steadfast love) toward me, And You have delivered my soul from the depths of Sheol."***

A. David's vows in **verses 12-13** are a result of receiving the request in **verse 11**. If he has a heart surrendered to the LORD. A heart unified in fearing, obeying, and serving the Sovereign God of the Universe, then David would

"praise You, O Lord my God, with all my heart, And I will glorify Your name forevermore."

B. David is not making his praise a conditional response to his request. He wants to praise God with all heart and glorify Him forever simply because God is great. He

just realizes that being committed to walking in God's ways will produce even more of this praise.

C. The foundation of his praise is also tied to his experience of God's unfailing love and deliverance in his life.

v.13 *“For great is Your (steadfast love) toward me, And You have delivered my soul from the depths of Sheol”*

How much do we praise because of Who God is and what God has done?

Hymn #368 All for Jesus