

PSALMS OF HOPE

@UnitedChurchFerndown

United Church Ferndown's 2023 Lent Programme

Monday 27th February

Reflection #6

HOW GREAT IS OUR GOD!



Pray:

Lord, let everything I do in this season of Lent come from You, be inspired by You. I long to be closer to You. I long to receive the hope that You offer. Help me to remember that nothing is more important than You in my life. Help me to rely on You for help. I want to walk in your footsteps, Jesus. I confess that I have often felt I knew better and ignored Your presence. Heal me, Lord, and help me to find You in the darkness of my life. Let me reach out and feel your hand and love there to guide me. Speak to me in this moment, Lord God. **Amen.**

Introduction:

We only need to step outside or look out of the window to appreciate the wonder of creation. These verses from Psalms 135 and 136 celebrate this amazing handiwork of Creator God. They acknowledge that everything in creation has been made by the power of God and made for a purpose.

In addition, Psalm 136 has the repeated refrain: 'His love endures forever.' Not only is God all-powerful, he is all-loving, and his special 'agape' love includes: kindness, faithfulness, mercy and forgiveness. And we need never worry that God's love will run out, because it flows from a deep well that will never run dry. It does indeed last forever.

Unlike the writers of these two psalms, we have the advantage of seeing God's love for us in the life of Jesus and his death on the cross. We also see God's awesome power at work in the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. Therefore, we need never doubt God's ability to help us in any situation, nor his desire to do so. God alone knows what is best for us, wants what is best for us, and has the power to bring about what is best for us.



Read:

Psalm 135:6-7 (NLT)

- ⁶ The LORD does whatever pleases him
throughout all heaven and earth,
and on the seas and in their depths.
⁷ He causes the clouds to rise over the whole earth.
He sends the lightning with the rain
and releases the wind from his storehouses.

Psalm 136:5-9 (NLT)

- ⁵ Give thanks to him who made the heavens so skilfully.
His faithful love endures forever.
⁶ Give thanks to him who placed the earth among the waters.
His faithful love endures forever.
⁷ Give thanks to him who made the heavenly lights—
His faithful love endures forever.
⁸ the sun to rule the day,
His faithful love endures forever.
⁹ and the moon and stars to rule the night.
His faithful love endures forever.

Consider:

These psalms are hymns of praise. How often do we give thanks to God for all we have in our lives? If God is Lord of all, do we involve him in all aspects of our life? How big is your Dad in heaven?

Pray:

Thank you, Father God, that nothing is too great for your power, and nothing too small for your fatherly care. Amen.

Try it out:

Take a moment to look at all the good stuff around you. I'm always amazed at how amazing the human body is or how intricate a tree, a plant or a flower is! If God cares about such details I'm sure he cares about your concerns....