



**Big Idea: The miracle of mercy is the beginning of gratitude.**

**1.) In His mercy, God HEARS us (v. 1-4).**

- v. 1-2 – The Psalmist’s grateful prayer of love for and devotion to God is a direct response to the mercy he has received.
- v. 3-4 – The Psalmist is in a situation so severe that no one other than Almighty God could help.
- If we will cry unto God for mercy from the depths of our inmost being, we can be assured that He will hear us (Philippians 4:6-7).
- In the simple fact that God hears us, Scripture promises us a **PEACE** that passes all understanding.
- The miracle of mercy is the beginning of gratitude because in His mercy, God hears us.

**2.) In His mercy, God HELPS US us (v. 5-6).**

- The Psalmist’s great love and devotion for God are based upon more than the fact God heard his voice when he was in peril.
- We rejoice in the Lord because He answers our cries for mercy with merciful actions.
- The miracle of mercy is the beginning of gratitude because, in His mercy, God helps us.

**3.) In His mercy, God HARBORS us (v. 7-9).**

- This man one who was desperately lost and flooded with anguish is now safely at rest in the heavenly harbor of God’s goodness.
- v. 7 – The Psalmist bursts forth with passion and **URGES** his soul to be at rest in God.

-- The miracle of mercy is the beginning of gratitude because, in His mercy, God harbors us in His goodness.

### **Biblical and Historical Contexts of Psalm 116**

- Psalms 113-118 are a group of Psalms that have long been known as the “Egyptian Hallel” or the “Egyptian Praise.”
- Psalm 116 was quite likely sung by Jesus and His disciples immediately after they had shared the Last Supper (Mark 14:22-26).
- Psalm 116 not only points back to Israel’s exodus from Egypt, but it points profoundly ahead to the matchless mercy revealed in Christ.

### **Application**

- In Christ, we can address our inmost being and **REPEAT** the powerful words of verse 7.
- With unshakable gratitude, we can live out together the realities of verses 8-9.
- *Are you living in the steady peace of a thankful life? Have you meditated upon the cross of Christ?*
- Whatever we may be facing, there is for us a **FOUNDATION** for gratitude that cannot be diminished or shaken (Philippians 4:12).
- ***What are you thankful for?***
  - The greatest gift offered to anyone in this life is forgiveness of sin and reconciliation with a holy God.
- Let us ever and always turn to the miracle of mercy, for in it we will find the beginning of gratitude.