

## Psalm 136:1-3

1 O give thanks unto the Lord; for he is good, for his mercy endures forever.

2 O give thanks unto the God of gods: for his mercy endures forever.

3 O give thanks to the Lord of lords: for his mercy endures forever.

### [Psalm 136:1](#)

"O give thanks unto the Lord." The exhortation is intensely earnest: the Psalmist pleads with the Lord's people with an "O," three times repeated. Thanks are the least that we can offer, and these we ought freely to give. The inspired psalmist calls us to praise God for all His goodness to us, and all the greatness of His power in blessing His chosen. We thank our parents, let us praise our heavenly Father; we are grateful to our benefactors, let us give thanks unto the Giver of all good. "For He is good." Essentially he is goodness itself, and practically all that He does is good. Let us thank Him that we have seen, proved, and tasted that He is good. He is good beyond all others; indeed, He alone is good in the highest sense; He is the Source of good, the Good of all good, the Sustainer of good, the Perfecter of good, and the Rewarder of good. For this He deserves the constant gratitude of His people. "For His mercy endures forever." We shall have this repeated in every verse of this song, but not once too often. It is the sweetest stanza that a man can sing. What joy that there is mercy, mercy with God, enduring mercy, mercy enduring forever. We are ever needing it, trying it, praying for it, receiving it: therefore let us forever sing of it.

"When all else is changing within and around, In God and His mercy no change can be found."

### [Psalm 136:2](#)

"O give thanks unto the God of gods," God is our God, to be worshipped and adored, and He is worthy of our reverence to the highest degree. What a wonderful statement to recognize that God is mine and ours at the same time. In other words, I have a personal relationship with God the Almighty and I worship Him with others too. God is worthy of our warmest thanks.

"For his mercy endures forever." Imagine supreme Godhead without everlasting mercy! It would then have been as fruitful a source of terror as it is now a fountain of thanksgiving. Let the Highest be praised in the highest style, for right well do His nature and His acts deserve the gratitude of all His creatures.

Praise your God with right good will, for His love endures still.

### [Psalm 136:3](#)

"O give thanks to the Lord of lords." All lordship is vested in the Eternal. He makes and administers law, He rules and governs mind and matter, and He possesses in Himself all sovereignty and power. All lords in the plural are summed up in this Lord in the singular: He is lordlier than all emperors and kings condensed into one. For this we may well be thankful, for we know the superior Sovereign will rectify the abuses of the underlings who may lord it over mankind. He will call these lords to His bar, and reckon with them for every oppression and injustice. He is as truly the Lord of lords as He is Lord over the meanest of the land, and He rules with a strict impartiality, for which every just man should give heartiest thanks. "For His mercy endures forever." Yes, He mingles mercy with His justice, and reigns for the benefit of His people. He pities the sorrowful, protects the helpless, provides for the needy, and pardons the guilty; and this He does from generation to generation, never wearying of His grace, "because He delights in mercy." Let us arouse ourselves to laud our glorious Lord! A third time let us thank Him who is our God, and our Lord; and let this one reason suffice us for three thanksgivings, or for three thousand.

For His mercy shall endure forever.