

Psalm 66:7-18ⁱⁱⁱ The Prayer From the Divine Abode

⁷Bless our God, you peoples; *

make the voice of his praise to be heard;

⁸Who holds our souls in life, *

and will not allow our feet to slip.

⁹For you, O God, have proved us; *

you have tried us just as silver is tried.

¹⁰You brought us into the snare; *

you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.

¹¹You let enemies ride over our heads; we went through fire and water; *

but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.

¹²I will enter your house with burnt-offerings and will pay you my vows, *

which I promised with my lips and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.

¹³I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts with the smoke of rams; *

I will give you oxen and goats.

¹⁴Come and listen, all you who fear God, *

and I will tell you what he has done for me.

¹⁵I called out to him with my mouth, *

and his praise was on my tongue.

¹⁶If I had found evil in my heart, *

the Lord would not have heard me;

¹⁷But in truth God has heard me; *

he has attended to the voice of my prayer.

¹⁸Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, *

nor withheld his love from me.

iii About the Psalm: Psalm 66:7-18

This psalm of praise and thanksgiving is divided into several parts. Verses 4-11 give thanks for the deliverance of people through God's saving power. In verses 12-18, one who has experienced rescue helps others understand what God has done.

Remembrance and reflection upon the spiritual meaning and significance of the events of the past gives the author of this Psalm a sense of personal groundedness, and also a sense of direction for what is needed in the days ahead.

Does the past have meaning for you? Can you see the spiritual significance of your history?