

earth shall be high;" and in Psalm 84, "our earth shall yield its fruit;" fruit of such value, that, when compared to it, the earth seems never before to have yielded anything but thorns and briars.

7. "May God bless us: and all the ends of the earth fear him." Henceforth will come the agreeable change, that God will open his hands, and replenish us what all manner of blessings, spiritual ones especially; and, on the other hand, all men, in the utmost quarters of the globe, will fear the true God with a holy fear, and will pay him the tribute of obedience and praise. The name of God, three times repeated here, while it shows the strong affections of the Prophet, would also seem to foreshadow the mystery of the Most Holy Trinity, which was so clearly preached by Christ and his apostles.

END OF PSALM 66

You are Psalms

Some people think you never get discouraged, but the fact is, when you do, you know where to run. Your prayers are open and honest because you realize that God already knows your heart, He's just waiting to hear you spill it. And when you do, what starts out as heavy ends up becoming a song of praise. You may struggle... and often you do... but each time, you grow in your understanding of God's faithfulness. You're just a song waiting to happen.

FOR MORE PAMPHLETS ON PSALMS AND OTHER READINGS
PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.pamphletstoinspire.com

PSALMS *(SONGS OF PRAISE)*

TRUST
IN THE
LORD *and do good;*
dwell in the land and
enjoy safe pasture.
PSALM 36: 3

PSALM NUMBER: 66

A prayer for the propagation of the church.

1. May God have mercy on us, and bless us; may he cause the light of his countenance to shine upon us, and may he have mercy on us:
2. That we may know thy way upon earth: thy salvation in all nations.
3. Let people confess to thee, O God: let all people give praise to thee.
4. Let the nations be glad and rejoice: for thou judgest the people with justice, and directest the nations upon earth.
5. Let the people, O God, confess to thee: let all the people give praise to thee:
6. The earth hath yielded her fruit. May God. Our God, bless us,
7. May God bless us: and all the ends of the earth fear him.

The Psalms are songs of praise and cover a period of about 1000 years, from the time of Moses (ca. 1400 B.C.) to the Israelites' return from exile (ca. 450 B.C.). They deal with selected events of that period and provide us with the thoughts and feelings of those who went through the experiences recorded. After being made a Cardinal by Pope Clement VIII, Saint Robert Bellarmine, prepared for posterity his very own commentary on each of the Psalms. Enclosed are his interpretations on each of the Psalms.

PSALM NUMBER: 66

EXPLANATION OF THE PSALM

1. "May God have mercy on us, and bless us; may he cause the light of his countenance to shine upon us, and may he have mercy on us."

With desire and earnestness Dave exclaims, "May God have mercy on us," according to the great mercy that prompts him to send the Savior to us; and may he in such mercy "bless us," which blessings we pray may not be confined to the things of this world, but "may he cause the light of his countenance to shine upon us," which may be variously interpreted. First, God is said to make "the light of his countenance shine upon us," when, having removed the clouds of his anger and Indignation, he regards us with a look of benignity, as children, as friends, as restored the grace. Again, he is said to "cause the light of his countenance to shine upon us," when, by the infusion of wisdom and love, he enlightens and warms us, as the sun is wont to do when no cloud intervenes. Finally, he is said to cause the light of this countenance to shine upon us when it pleases him to let us see him to a certain extent; which he did through the mystery of the Incarnation, when "he was seen upon earth, and conversed with men," Bar. 3. And such seems to be the prayer of the Prophet here, that God should show his countenance, if not in the form of God, at least in the form of man. He puts up the same petition in Psalm 79, when he says, "thou that sittest upon the Cherubim shine forth before Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasses." And this being the mercy he originally asked, he, therefore, repeats, "and may he have mercy on us;" that means, may he, by such light, have mercy on us.

2. "That we may know the way upon earth: thy salvation in all nations." The reason why he so ardently longs for the light of God's countenance is, that through that divine light we may, in this land of darkness know the way to God, to our country from which we have

been so long exiled in darkness and the shade of death; which way most undoubtedly is Christ himself, who says, "I am the way;" and not only the way, but the light through which it is to be known, of which Isaias 9, says, "the people that walk in darkness have seen a great light: the them that dwelt in the region of the shadow of death light is risen." – "Thy salvation in all nations" explains the first part of the verse, that the Savior may be known among all nations.

3. "Let people confess to thee, O God: let all people give praise to thee." The Prophet's desires being in accordance with true charity, he wished that Christ should come upon earth; first, for the glory of God, then, for the benefit of mankind; and in this verse, therefore, he prays that all manner of people should praise, thank, and glorify him for so great and so universal a favor; that all worship and veneration of false gods should cease, and the one true God alone be acknowledged by all.

4. "Let the nations be glad and rejoice: but thou judgest the people with justice, and directest the nations upon earth." Next to the glory of God, let the benefit of mankind be acknowledged; and, therefore, "let the nations be glad and rejoice;" let all manner of people rejoice; "for thou," through Christ, "judgest the people with justice;" you have destroyed the power of the tyrannical prince of darkness, and established the just authority of the Church in its stead. "And directest the nations upon earth;" governing and guiding them, by your most wholesome laws, to the harbor of life everlasting.

5. "Let the peoples O God, confess to thee: that all the people give praise to thee."

6. "The earth hath yielded her fruit. May God, our God, bless us." He again exhorts the people, to praise God, assigning as an additional reason, that would "the earth hath yielded her fruit;" that means, that the earth had at length yielded that fruit, to yield which she was created, namely, Christ in the flesh. For this is the fruit of which Isaias speaks when he says, "in that day the bud of the Lord shall be in magnificence and glory, and the fruit of the