

September 24, 1922

Psa. 66:1-5, 16-20

1. Make a joyful noise unto God, all the earth:
 2. Sing forth the glory of his name:
Make his praise glorious.
 3. Say unto God, How terrible are thy works!
Through the greatness of thy power shall thine
enemies submit themselves unto thee.
 4. And all the earth shall worship thee,
And shall sing unto thee;
They shall sing to thy name.
- [Selah]
5. Come, and see the works of God;
He is terrible in his doing toward the children of
men.
 16. Come, and hear, all ye that fear God,
And I will declare what he hath done for my soul.
 17. I cried unto him with my mouth,
And he was extolled with my tongue.
 18. If I regard iniquity in my heart,
The Lord will not hear:
 19. But verily God hath heard;
He hath attended to the voice of my prayer.
 20. Blessed be God,
Who hath not turned away my prayer,
Nor his lovingkindness from me.

LESSON INTERPRETATION

Why should we give thanks and praise to God?

We should give thanks and praise to God, because we thereby awaken within ourselves the sublimity, the power, and the majesty of the supreme Cause.

Do the popular interpretations of the original Scriptures always give the correct ideas of the authors?

No. We find by consulting independent Bible interpreters that many mistakes have been made in translating from the Hebrew and Greek to the English.

Give some of the better interpretations of today's text.

The first line in this psalm should read:

"Shout joyfully unto God, all ye lands."

Give another illustration.

"How terrible are thy works," should be, "How sublime are thy works."

Is God "terrible" in his doings toward men?

No. Verse 5 should be translated:

"Come, look on the products of God,

Displayed from on High to mankind."

In what other respect could the text be cleared?

Verse 16:

"Come, and hear, all ye that fear God,

And I will declare what he hath done for my soul,"
should be more truly rendered:

"Come, hear me relate what I say,

And what God has done for my soul."

Should there be any element of fear in our hearts toward God when we pray and give thanks?

No. We should always think of God as a loving, tender, merciful Father, who is always more willing to

give of his abundant kindness than we are to receive.

What is the greatest word of praise given by David?

"Bless Jehovah, O my soul;

And all that is within me, bless his holy name."