

Purpose: To move us to praise the Lord's mercy and not to curse man's failures

## **Man's Failure, God's Mercy**

Do you curse man for his failures, or do you praise God for His mercy?

Psalm 106

Don Ruhl • Savage Street, Grants Pass, Oregon • December 13, In the year of our Lord, 2015

Scripture Reader and Reading: Wayne Duncan – Psalm 106.47–48

Song Leader and Song Suggestions: Phil Joseph – Songs on God's mercy, forgiveness,

### **I. Psalm 106.1–6 – Praise the Lord**

A. Praise the Lord although we cannot declare it all,

**1 Praise the Lord!**

**Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good!  
For His mercy endures forever.**

**2 Who can utter the mighty acts of the Lord?**

**Who can declare all His praise?**

B. The blessed,

**3 Blessed are those who keep justice,**

**And he who does righteousness at all times!**

C. Ask for favor,

**4 Remember me, O Lord, with the favor You have toward Your people.  
Oh, visit me with Your salvation,**

**5 That I may see the benefit of Your chosen ones,  
That I may rejoice in the gladness of Your nation,  
That I may glory with Your inheritance.**

D. The reason for the truths of verses 1–5,

**6 We have sinned with our fathers,  
We have committed iniquity,  
We have done wickedly.**

### **II. Psalm 106.7–12 –**

A. Man's Failure: Not Understanding God's Wonders

B. God's Mercy: God Saved Them Anyway

- 7 Our fathers in Egypt did not understand Your wonders;  
They did not remember the multitude of Your mercies,  
But rebelled by the sea—the Red Sea.**
- 8 Nevertheless He saved them for His name's sake,  
That He might make His mighty power known.**
- 9 He rebuked the Red Sea also, and it dried up;  
So He led them through the depths,  
As through the wilderness.**
- 10 He saved them from the hand of him who hated them,  
And redeemed them from the hand of the enemy.**
- 11 The waters covered their enemies;  
There was not one of them left.**
- 12 Then they believed His words;  
They sang His praise.**

**III. Psalm 106.13–15 –**

A. Man's Failure: Quickly Forgetting God's Works

B. God's Mercy: He Gave Their Requests

- 13 They soon forgot His works;  
They did not wait for His counsel,**
- 14 But lusted exceedingly in the wilderness,  
And tested God in the desert.**
- 15 And He gave them their request,  
But sent leanness into their soul.**

**IV. Psalm 106.16–18 –**

A. Man's Failure: Envy

B. God's Mercy: God Removed the Envious

- 16 When they envied Moses in the camp,  
And Aaron the saint of the Lord,**
- 17 The earth opened up and swallowed Dathan,  
And covered the faction of Abiram.**
- 18 A fire was kindled in their company;  
The flame burned up the wicked.**

**V. Psalm 106.19–23 –**

- A. Man's Failure: Worshiping an Idol
- B. God's Mercy: He Did Not Destroy Them

**19 They made a calf in Horeb,  
And worshiped the molded image.  
20 Thus they changed their glory  
Into the image of an ox that eats grass.  
21 They forgot God their Savior,  
Who had done great things in Egypt,  
22 Wondrous works in the land of Ham,  
Awesome things by the Red Sea.  
23 Therefore He said that He would destroy them,  
Had not Moses His chosen one stood before Him in the breach,  
To turn away His wrath, lest He destroy them.**

**VI. Psalm 106.24–27 –**

- A. Man's Failure: Despising God's Gift
- B. God's Wrath: He Removed Them

**24 Then they despised the pleasant land;  
They did not believe His word,  
25 But complained in their tents,  
And did not heed the voice of the Lord.  
26 Therefore He raised His hand in an oath against them,  
To overthrow them in the wilderness,  
27 To overthrow their descendants among the nations,  
And to scatter them in the lands.**

**VII. Psalm 106.28–31 –**

- A. Man's Failure: Joining with Pagan Worshipers
- B. God's Mercy: A Man Stopped the Plague

**28 They joined themselves also to Baal of Peor,  
And ate sacrifices made to the dead.  
29 Thus they provoked Him to anger with their deeds,  
And the plague broke out among them.**

**30 Then Phinehas stood up and intervened,  
And the plague was stopped.  
31 And that was accounted to him for righteousness  
To all generations forevermore.**

**VIII. Psalm 106.32–33 –**

A. Man's Failure: Questioning God's Deliverance

**32 They angered Him also at the waters of strife,  
So that it went ill with Moses on account of them;  
33 Because they rebelled against His Spirit,  
So that he spoke rashly with his lips.**

**IX. Psalm 106.34–38 –**

A. Man's Failure: Mingled with the Gentiles

**34 They did not destroy the peoples,  
Concerning whom the Lord had commanded them,  
35 But they mingled with the Gentiles  
And learned their works;  
36 They served their idols,  
Which became a snare to them.  
37 They even sacrificed their sons  
And their daughters to demons,  
38 And shed innocent blood,  
The blood of their sons and daughters,  
Whom they sacrificed to the idols of Canaan;  
And the land was polluted with blood.**

**X. Psalm 106.39–43 –**

A. Man's Failure: Their Own Works Defiled Them

B. God's Mercy: God Delivered Them Many Times

**39 Thus they were defiled by their own works,  
And played the harlot by their own deeds.  
40 Therefore the wrath of the Lord was kindled against His people,  
So that He abhorred His own inheritance.  
41 And He gave them into the hand of the Gentiles,**

And those who hated them ruled over them.  
42 Their enemies also oppressed them,  
And they were brought into subjection under their hand.  
43 Many times He delivered them;  
But they rebelled in their counsel,  
And were brought low for their iniquity.

**XI. Psalm 106.44–46 –**

A. God's Mercy: He Regarded Their Affliction

44 Nevertheless He regarded their affliction,  
When He heard their cry;  
45 And for their sake He remembered His covenant,  
And relented according to the multitude of His mercies.  
46 He also made them to be pitied  
By all those who carried them away captive.

**XII. Psalm 106.47 – Call Our for Salvation**

47 Save us, O Lord our God,  
And gather us from among the Gentiles,  
To give thanks to Your holy name,  
To triumph in Your praise.

**XIII. Psalm 106.48 – Praise the Lord**

48 Blessed be the Lord God of Israel  
From everlasting to everlasting!  
And let all the people say, "Amen!"  
Praise the Lord!