

Psalm 66

A Call to the Nations to Worship Elohim

For the choir director. A Song. A Psalm.

Scripture taken from the *NEW AMERICAN STANDARD BIBLE*®,
Copyright © 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1995 by the Lockman Foundation.
Used by permission. (www.Lockman.org)

A1 A CALL TO THE NATIONS TO PRAISE ELOHIM 66:1-12

B1 The Imperative ¹ Mode of Praise! 66:1-2

C1 A World-Wide, Joyful Shout! {1} Shout joyfully to God, all the earth;
66:1

C2 Glorifying Song! {2} Sing the glory of His name; 66:2

C3 Glorifying Praise! Make His praise glorious.

B2 The Imperative Content of Praise! {3} Say ² to God, 66:3-4

C1 His Awesome Power Causing Feigned Obedience 66:3

D1 "How awesome are Your works!

D2 Because of the greatness of Your power Your enemies will give
feigned obedience to You.

C2 His Great Name Inducing World-Wide Worship and Praise 66:4

D1 Worship: {4} "All the earth will worship You,

D2 Songs of Praise

E1 And will sing praises to You;

E2 They will sing praises to Your name." Selah.

¹ 62:1-2 Title - **Imperative:** All the verbs in this section are imperatives. **Mode:** Referring to shouting and singing.

² 66:3 - Say: An imperative in Hebrew.

B3 A Recitation of The Works of Elohim: His Sovereignty over All 66:5-7

- C1 His Deliverance of Israel from Egypt to Canaan 66:5-6
 - D1 The command to contemplate the works of Elohim 66:5
 - E1 {5} Come and see³ the works of God,
 - E2 *Who is* awesome in *His* deeds toward the sons of men.
 - D2 The description of the works of Elohim 66:6
 - E1 His drying up the Red Sea: {6} He turned the sea into dry land;
 - E2 His enabling Israel to cross the Jordan at flood stage: They passed through the river on foot;
 - E3 The exhortation to rejoice! There let us rejoice in Him!
- C2 His Rule over the Nations 66:7
 - D1 He is the One ruling mightily for eternity: {7} He rules by His might forever;
 - D2 His scrutiny of the nations: His eyes keep watch on the nations;
 - D3 The warning to the rebels: Let not the rebellious exalt themselves. Selah.

B4 A Call to the Nations to Bless Elohim Because of His Benevolently Disciplinary Tactics 66:8-12

- C1 A Renewed Call to the Nations to Bless Elohim 66:8-9
 - D1 {8} Bless our God, O peoples, And sound His praise abroad, 66:8
 - D2 {9} Who keeps us in life And does not allow our feet to slip. 66:9
- C2 Because of Elohim's Redemptive Discipline of His People 66:10-12
 - D1 The description of Elohim's discipline 66:10-12a
 - E1 {10} For You have tried us, O God; 66:10
 - E2 You have refined us as silver is refined.
 - E3 {11} You brought us into the net; 66:11

³ 66:5 - Come and see: Both verbs are imperatives.

E4 You laid an oppressive burden upon our loins.

E5 {12} You made men ride over our heads; 66:12a

E6 We went through fire and through water,

D2 The purpose of Elohim's discipline! Yet You brought us out into *a place of abundance*.⁴ 66:12b

A2 THE PSALMIST'S RESOLVE TO PAY HIS VOWS BECAUSE OF ANSWERED PRAYER 66:13-20

B1 His Resolve to Pay His Vows 66:13-15

C1 His Resolve To Bring Burnt Offerings to Elohim's House (the Sanctuary):
{13} I shall come into Your house with burnt offerings;

C2 His Reason: I shall pay You my vows, (66:13b) 66:13b-14

D1 {14} Which my lips uttered 66:14

D2 And my mouth spoke when I was in distress.

C3 His Itemization of His Offerings 66:15

D1 Fattened livestock and rams: {15} I shall offer to You burnt offerings of fat beasts, With the smoke of rams;

D2 Bulls and billy goats: I shall make *an offering of* bulls with male goats. Selah.

B2 His Testimony of Answered Prayer 66:16-20

C1 His Invitation to Hear of Elohim's Work on the Psalmist's Behalf 66:16

D1 {16} Come *and* hear, all who fear God,

D2 And I will tell of what He has done for my soul.

C2 His Rehearsal of His Cry {17} I cried to Him with my mouth, And He was extolled with my tongue. 66:17

C3 The Hindrance to His Prayer: {18} If I regard wickedness in my heart, The Lord will not hear; 66:18

⁴ 66:12 - abundance: The six verbs in 66:10-12a are all perfects or suffixed verbs, meaning they convey background information, merely describing the discipline of Elohim. The main point of the passage climaxes here in 66:12b – Elohim disciplined in order to bring the people to a place of abundance! (The verb here is imperfect or prefixed – conveying the principal action of the section.)

- C4 His Assurance of Elohim's Hearing: *{19}* But certainly God has heard; He has given heed to the voice of my prayer. 66:19
- C5 His Blessing of Elohim for Answered Prayer! *{20}* Blessed be God, Who has not turned away my prayer Nor His lovingkindness from me. 66:20

EXPANDED ANALYSIS OF PSALM 66

Prepared by James T. Bartsch
September, 2010, updated November, 2019

Published Online by WordExplain.com
Email Contact: jbartsch@wordexplain.com

Author's Literal Translation from Hebrew

- 66:1 To the chief musician, a song, a psalm.
Shout joyfully to Elohim, all the earth!
- 66:2 Sing out the glory of His name;
Make glorious His praise!
- 66:3 Say to Elohim, “How fearful⁵ are your works.
Because of the greatness of your power, shall feign submission to You – the ones
opposing⁶ You!
- 66:4 All the earth will worship You;
And they will sing to You;
They will sing to Your name! Selah.
- 66:5 Come and see the works of Elohim,
The One causing fear in His deeds toward the sons of men!
- 66:6 He turned the sea into dry land.
Through the river they passed on foot.
There let us rejoice in Him!
- 66:7 He is the One ruling by His might forever!
His eyes over the nations keep watch.
The rebellious ones, let them not exalt themselves!
- 66:8 Bless, O peoples, our Elohim;
And cause to be heard the sound of His praise! –
- 66:9 – The One holding our soul in life (lives)
And not does He give to slipping (noun) our feet.
- 66:10 Because You have tested us, O Elohim;
You have smelted us as to smelter silver.
- 66:11 You have brought us into a net.
You have placed misery upon our hips. [Could mean He has placed an oppressive burden
on the small of our backs.]
- 66:12 You caused to ride – men – over our heads.
We went through fire and through water.
Yet You brought us out into abundance!

⁵ 66:3 – fearful: ptcpl from yra – fear-producing or dread-producing

⁶ 66:3 – ones opposing you: ptcpl, meaning, “Your enemies.”

66:13

I shall come into Your house with burnt offerings.
I shall pay to You my vows,

66:14

Which have uttered – my lips
When distress to me.

66:15

Burnt sacrifices of fatlings I will offer to You with the smoke of rams;
I shall make *an offering of* bulls with billy goats. Selah.

66:16

Come! Hear! – and I will declare – all fearing God –
What He has done for my soul.

66:17

To Him with my mouth I cried
And he was extolled with my tongue.

66:18

Harm if I see in my heart,
Not will hear – Adonai

66:19

Certainly has heard – Elohim;
He has given heed to the voice of my prayer.

66:20

Blessed be Elohim,
Who has not turned aside my prayer
Nor his loyal love from me.