

**Psalm 86**

**David's Plea to Sovereign Yahweh Elohim Adonai to Continue  
to Rescue Him from His Enemies**

A Prayer of David.

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**A1 DAVID'S URGENT <sup>1</sup> PLEA TO YAHWEH ELOHIM ADONAI FOR  
PRESERVATION BASED ON HIS FORGIVING LOYAL LOVE 86:1-5**

**B1 His Urging Yahweh to Listen and Answer 86:1**

C1 His Plea: {1} **Incline** Your ear, O LORD, *and answer* me;

C2 His Reason – Great Need: For I am afflicted and needy.

**B2 His Urging Elohim to Preserve and Save Him 86:2**

C1 Preservation

D1 His plea: {2} **Preserve** my soul,

D2 His reason – his godliness: for I am a godly man;

C2 Salvation

D1 His plea: O You my God, **save**

D2 His reason – he is Elohim's trusting servant: Your servant who  
trusts in You.

**B3 His Urging Adonai to be Gracious to Him 86:3**

C1 His Plea: {3} **Be gracious** to me, O Lord,

C2 His Reason – Continual Cry: For to You I cry all day long.

**B4 His Urging Adonai to Cause Him to be Joyful 86:4**

C1 His Plea: {4} **Make glad** the soul

C2 His Reasons

D1 He is Adonai's servant: of Your servant,

D2 It is to Adonai he lifts up his soul: For to You, O Lord, I lift up my  
soul.

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<sup>1</sup> Urgent - 86:1-5 Subtitle: The six verbs in bold font (emphasis added) are all imperatives!

**B5 The Basis on Which He Expects Adonai to Respond Favorably to His Pleas 86:5**

- C1 His Goodness: {5} For You, Lord, are good,
- C2 His Readiness to Forgive: and ready to forgive,
- C3 His Abundant Loyal Love: And abundant in lovingkindness to all who call upon You.

**A2 DAVID'S REQUEST TO YAHWEH ADONAI FOR AUDIENCE BASED ON HIS INCOMPARABLE SOVEREIGNTY 86:6-10**

**B1 His Plea to Yahweh to Listen 86:6**

- C1 {6} **Give ear,**<sup>2</sup> O LORD, to my prayer;
- C2 **And give heed** to the voice of my supplications!

**B2 His Resolve to Pray Because Yahweh Will Answer 86:7**

- C1 His Resolve: {7} In the day of my trouble I shall call upon You,
- C2 His Assurance: For You will answer me.

**B3 His Affirmation of Adonai's Incomparable Supremacy 86:8**

- C1 His Incomparable Essence: {8} There is no one like You among the gods, O Lord,<sup>3</sup>
- C2 His Incomparable Works: Nor are there any works like Yours.

**B4 His Assurance of Adonai Elohim's Incomparable Sovereignty 86:9-10**

- C1 Adonai's Sovereignty Reflected in Unanimous International Worship 86:9
  - D1 {9} All nations whom You have made shall come and worship<sup>4</sup> before You, O Lord,
  - D2 And they shall glorify Your name.

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<sup>2</sup> 86:6 - give ear ... and give heed: Both verbs are imperatives, and mark the beginning of the next paragraph. Emphasis is added with bold font, here, and throughout the psalm.

<sup>3</sup> 86:8 - Lord: God's incomparable greatness and sovereignty is stressed in this psalm by David's repeated use of the name Adonai (86:3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 12, 15) (see comment by Allen P. Ross, *TBKC*).

<sup>4</sup> 86:9 - all nations ... worship ... glorify: The first fulfillment will be during Christ's Millennial Kingdom (Zech 14:9, 14). This prophecy will ultimately be fulfilled in the New Jerusalem in the New Heavens and Earth (Rev 21-22).

C2 Elohim's Incomparability Reflected in His Mighty Acts 86:10

D1 His greatness reflected in His miracles: {10} For You are great and do wondrous deeds;

D2 His incomparability reflected in His supreme essence: You alone are God.

**A3 DAVID'S CONVICTION OF HIS OWN ETERNAL RELATIONSHIP WITH YAHWEH ADONAI ELOHIM 86:11-13**

**B1 His Urgent<sup>5</sup> Plea for Yahweh to Teach Him His Way and Cause Him to Fear Him 86:11**

C1 His Urgent Plea for Instruction: {11} **Teach me** Your way, O LORD;

C2 His Resolve to Obey: I will walk in Your truth;

C3 His Urgent Plea to be Made God-Fearing: **Unite** my heart to fear Your name.

**B2 His Resolve to Thank and Praise Adonai, His Elohim Forever Because of His Loyal Love and Deliverance 86:12-13**

C1 His Resolve of Heartfelt Thanks: {12} I will give thanks to You, O Lord my God, with all my heart, 86:12a

C2 His Resolve of Praise: And will glorify Your name forever. 86:12b

C3 His Reasons for His Thanks and Praise 86:13

D1 His great loyal love for him: {13} For Your lovingkindness toward me is great,

D2 His having delivered him from death: And You have delivered my soul from the depths of Sheol.

**A4 DAVID'S PLEA TO ELOHIM ADONAI YAHWEH TO RESCUE HIM FROM HIS ENEMIES 86:14-17**

**B1 His Identification to Elohim of His Enemies Seeking His Life 86:14**

C1 Arrogant Men: {14} O God, arrogant men have risen up against me,

C2 Violent Men: And a band of violent men have sought my life,

C3 Godless Men: And they have not set You before them.

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<sup>5</sup> 86:11 Subtitle - Urgent: David's urgency is again shown by his use of the imperative twice in this verse - **teach me** and **unite**, both with bold emphasis added.

**B2 His Praise of Adonai Elohim's Sterling Character 86:15**

- C1 {15} But You, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious,
- C2 Slow to anger
- C3 and abundant in lovingkindness (loyal love) and truth.

**B3 His Urgent <sup>6</sup> Plea to Yahweh for Rescue 86:16-17**

- C1 His Pleas 86:16-17a
  - D1 {16} **Turn** to me,
  - D2 **and be gracious to me;**
  - D3 Oh **grant** Your strength to Your servant,
  - D4 **And save** the son of Your handmaid.
  - D5 {17} **Show** me a sign for good,
- C2 His Reason 86:17b
  - D1 Shame upon his adversaries: That those who hate me may see *it* and be ashamed,
  - D2 Prompted by Yahweh's help and comfort: Because You, O LORD, have helped me and comforted me.

EXPANDED ANALYSIS OF PSALM 86

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<sup>6</sup> 86:16-17 Subtitle - Urgent: David's urgency is indicated in his use of five imperatives (bold font emphasis added), commanding, as it were, God to act on his behalf!

**Psalm 86 Paragraph Breakdowns**

<b>NASB 95</b>	<b>Keil &amp; Delitzsch</b>	<b>Allen P. Ross The Bible Knowledge Commentary</b>	<b>JTB</b>
1-10	1-5	1-5	1-5
	6-13	6-13	6-10
11-13			11-13
14-17	14-17	14-17	14-17