

## *PSALM 33*

To praise Yahweh for his goodness and superintending providence in the works of creation is a duty highly reasonable and delightful to good men, and David in this psalm declares that it becomes us to be thankful. The certainty that God has a perfect knowledge of all that transpires in the world, of all the thoughts as well as actions of men, should move us to fear him and trust in his mercy.

- 1 Shout for joy in YAHWEH, O you righteous! Praise befits the upright.
- 2 Give thanks to YAHWEH with the lyre; make melody to him with the harp of ten strings!
- 3 Sing to him a new song; play skillfully on the strings, with loud shouts.
  
- 4 For the word of YAHWEH is upright, and all his work is done in faithfulness.
- 5 He loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of the steadfast love of YAHWEH.
  
- 6 By the word of YAHWEH the heavens were made,  
and by the breath of his mouth all their host.
- 7 He gathers the waters of the sea as a heap; he puts the deeps in storehouses.
  
- 8 Let all the earth fear YAHWEH; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him!
- 9 For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm.
  
- 10 YAHWEH brings the counsel of the nations to nothing;  
he frustrates the plans of the peoples.
- 11 The counsel of YAHWEH stands forever, the plans of his heart to all generations.
- 12 Blessed is the nation whose God is YAHWEH,  
the people whom he has chosen as his heritage!
  
- 13 YAHWEH looks down from heaven; he sees all the children of man;  
14 from where he sits enthroned he looks out on all the inhabitants of the earth,  
15 he who fashions the hearts of them all and observes all their deeds.
- 16 The king is not saved by his great army; a warrior is not delivered by his great strength.
- 17 The war horse is a false hope for salvation, and by its great might it cannot rescue.
  
- 18 Behold, the eye of YAHWEH is on those who fear him,  
on those who hope in his steadfast love,
- 19 that he may deliver their soul from death and keep them alive in famine.
  
- 20 Our soul waits for YAHWEH; he is our help and our shield.
- 21 For our heart is glad in him, because we trust in his holy name.
- 22 Let your steadfast love, O YAHWEH, be upon us, even as we hope in you.

## PRAYER

*O Lord our God, you fill the heavens and earth with your goodness. We now come before your throne of majesty and glory acknowledging our dependence upon you for all we have and all we hope for. We thank you for the many blessings and comforts of this life, and for the hopes and assurance of a future and better one. Accept this tribute of praise and adoration. Give us a sense of your infinite loving-kindness so that we will work with zeal for your glory, all the while fearing displeasing you in any way. Defend us against the snares of the devil and the corrupt lusts and passions of our nature. Make the inestimable value of our souls our chief care and concern, so that we will work out our own salvation with fear and trembling. And with joy we shall look forward to that day when we will be numbered with your elect and make partakers of everlasting glory through the merits of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*