

**THANKFULNESS TO GOD**  
for  
**CREATION, REDEMPTION, AND PROVIDENCE**  
**PSALM 136:1-26**

**A. Introduction.**

Probably composed by David, this is the great antiphonal psalm designed for response between the priest/preacher/worship leader and the congregation, even in Solomon's temple (II Chron. 7:1-6). Hence it was a popular hymn. Sometimes it is called the Great Hallel [praise] Psalm. In essence, the call is for giving thanks to the God of Israel, of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, for His "lovingkindness," חֶסֶד, *hesed*, or steadfast, loyal, covenant grace and mercy.

**B. Thankfulness to God in his Primary Names, vs. 1-3.**

1. As LORD of lords [Yahweh/Jehovah], v. 1.
2. As *God of gods* [*elohim*], v. 2.
3. As *Lord of lords* [*adonai*], v. 3.

**C. Thankfulness to God for creation, vs. 4-9.**

1. The overall wonders, v. 4.
2. The heavens, v. 5.
3. The earth above the waters, v. 6.
4. The great lights, v. 7.
5. The sun, v. 8.
6. The moon and stars, v. 9.

**D. Thankfulness to God for redemption, vs. 10-22.**

1. The redemption out of Egypt, vs. 10-15.
  - a. The judgment of the captor, v. 10.
  - b. The deliverance of Israel, v. 11.
  - c. The sovereignty of the Redeemer, v. 12.
  - d. The salvation of the Redeemer, v. 13.

- e. The baptism into Moses (I Cor. 10:2), v. 14,
- f. The death of the captor, v. 15.
- 2. The wilderness deliverance, vs. 16-22.
  - a. Through leading, v. 16.
  - b. Through protection, vs. 17-20.
  - c. Through heritage, vs. 21-22.

**E. Thankfulness to God for providence, vs. 23-26.**

- 1. In the Egyptian (Joseph) and wilderness humiliation (manna and quail), v. 23.
- 2. In the deliverance from enemies, v. 24
- 3. In the generous provision of food, v. 25.

**F. Thankfulness overall to God Himself, v. 26.**

- 1. The heavenly dominion of His sovereign Person.
- 2. The eternal dominion of His loyal love.