

Psalms 66:17

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

I cried unto him with my mouth, and he was extolled with my tongue.

Analysis

Personal testimony of answered prayer follows sacrifice—'I cried unto him with my mouth' shows vocal, explicit prayer. The phrase 'he was extolled with my tongue' indicates that even before receiving the answer, the psalmist began praising God. This demonstrates faith that trusts God's character and purposes regardless of immediate circumstances. Extolling God 'with my tongue' emphasizes that worship involves articulate, thoughtful expression, not merely emotional feeling.

Historical Context

Ancient Hebrew worship was highly verbal and communal, with psalms sung antiphonally in temple services. This public testimony encouraged others' faith by recounting specific instances of God's faithfulness.

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How can you develop the habit of praising God even before you see the answer to your prayers?

2. What specific answers to prayer should you testify about to encourage others' faith?
3. How does 'extolling' God with your tongue differ from merely thinking positive thoughts about Him?

Interlinear Text

אֵלַי	פִּי	קָרָאתִי	יְהוָה	עִתִּי	לְשׁוֹנִי:
H413	unto him with my mouth	I cried	H7318	with	my tongue
	H6310	H7121		H8478	H3956

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 34:6 (Parallel theme): This poor man cried, and the LORD heard him, and saved him out of all his troubles.

Psalms 30:1 (Parallel theme): I will extol thee, O LORD; for thou hast lifted me up, and hast not made my foes to rejoice over me.

Psalms 145:1 (Parallel theme): I will extol thee, my God, O king; and I will bless thy name for ever and ever.

Psalms 30:8 (Parallel theme): I cried to thee, O LORD; and unto the LORD I made supplication.

Psalms 116:12 (Parallel theme): What shall I render unto the LORD for all his benefits toward me?