

Volume 2

Books of Poetry

Psalm 86:17

"Show me a sign for good, that they who hate me may see it, and be ashamed; because You, LORD, have helped me, and comforted me." Psalm 86:17

Such is human nature! It is the desire for our enemies to see that we are loved and blessed of God – and that they are not! But is there not more in this verse than what we see at first? The Lord is surely at work within us even when it appears we are being motivated by our own selfishness and base desires.

This heart cry for a Father's defense and public approval is also the means whereby the Heavenly Father may very well reveal Himself – even to our enemies. "And fear came upon every soul; and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles." (Acts 2:43). The Gospel age is clearly to be marked – not by mere intellectual argument and cunningly devised apologetics – but by the attestation of the message by signs and wonders done in the Name and authority of Jesus Christ. (John 14:12; Hebrews 2:4; 1 Corinthians 2:4-5; Mark 16:15-20).

Jesus' call for His people to "pray for those who spitefully use us" (Matthew 5:44; Luke 6:28) is the balancing weight to our human cry for vindication. Fear not, the Lord is well able to both "show you a sign for good that those who hate you may see it and be ashamed" but to the end that those same people who have hated you be confronted, not only with your success and blessings, but with His love and forgiveness!

"So, son, be encouraged, don't give up pray on, God will indeed show you a sign for good!"

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