The Enduring Love of the Lord

Psalm 136:1-26
The Enduring Love of the Lord

Commentary

by

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Text:

Psalm 136:1-26,

1. Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good. His love endures forever.
2. Give thanks to the God of gods. His love endures forever.
3. Give thanks to the Lord of lords: His love endures forever.
4. to him who alone does great wonders, His love endures forever.
5. who by his understanding made the heavens, His love endures forever.
6. who spread out the earth upon the waters, His love endures forever.
7. who made the great lights—His love endures forever.
8. the sun to govern the day, His love endures forever.
9. the moon and stars to govern the night; His love endures forever.
10. to him who struck down the firstborn of Egypt His love endures forever.
11. and brought Israel out from among them His love endures forever.
12. with a mighty hand and outstretched arm; His love endures forever.
13. to him who divided the Red Sea asunder His love endures forever.
14. and brought Israel through the midst of it, His love endures forever.
15. but swept Pharaoh and his army into the Red Sea; His love endures forever.
16. to him who led his people through the desert, His love endures forever.
17. who struck down great kings, His love endures forever.
18. and killed mighty kings—His love endures forever.
19. Sihon king of the Amorites His love endures forever.
20. and Og king of Bashan—His love endures forever.
21. and gave their land as an inheritance, His love endures forever.
22. an inheritance to his servant Israel; His love endures forever.
23. to the One who remembered us in our lowest estate His love endures forever.
24. and freed us from our enemies, His love endures forever.
25. and who gives food to every creature. His love endures forever.
26. Give thanks to the God of heaven. His love endures forever. NIV

Introduction:

I. For the similarity between Psalms 135 and 136, see the opening paragraph of the introduction to Psalm 135.

II. The date of the writing of Psalm 136 cannot be definitely placed in a historical setting.

   A. Some scholars believe that verse 24 identifies the psalm as post-exilic.

      1. Psalm 136:24, and freed us from our enemies, His love endures forever. NIV

      2. While this is possible, it is not a necessary conclusion, for Israel was plagued with enemies throughout most of
her history, and marvelous victories occurred sporadically.

III. This psalm is composed of three elements interspersed to form a beautiful poetic effect.

A. In the introduction (Ps. 136:1-3) and conclusion (Ps. 136:26), phrases descriptive of God's nature emphasize the goodness and greatness of God.

1. Psalm 136:1-3, 26, Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good. His love endures forever. Give thanks to the God of gods. His love endures forever. Give thanks to the Lord of lords: His love endures forever. Give thanks to the God of heaven. His love endures forever. NIV

B. The second line of each verse constitutes a refrain that emphasizes the eternal constancy of God's covenant love for Israel.

C. In the main body of the psalm, God's creative acts and His works of providence toward Israel provide the motive for thanksgiving.

1. The acts of creation are traced only through the fourth day, and only partially (Ps. 136:4-9).

a. Psalm 136:4-9, to him who alone does great wonders, His love endures forever. who by his understanding made the heavens, His love endures forever. who spread out the earth upon the waters, His love endures forever. who made the great lights— His love endures forever. the sun to govern the day, His love endures for-
ever. the moon and stars to govern the night;
His love endures forever. NIV

2. The acts of providence pertain to the exodus from Egypt and the conquest and settlement of Canaan (Ps. 136:10-24).

a. Psalm 136:10-24, to him who struck down the firstborn of Egypt His love endures forever. and brought Israel out from among them His love endures forever. with a mighty hand and outstretched arm; His love endures forever. to him who divided the Red Sea asunder His love endures forever. and brought Israel through the midst of it, His love endures forever. but swept Pharaoh and his army into the Red Sea; His love endures forever. to him who led his people through the desert, His love endures forever. who struck down great kings, His love endures forever. and killed mighty kings—His love endures forever. Sihon king of the Amorites His love endures forever. and Og king of Bashan—His love endures forever. and gave their land as an inheritance, His love endures forever. an inheritance to his servant Israel; His love endures forever. to the One who remembered us in our lowest estate His love endures forever. and freed us from our enemies, His love endures forever. NIV

3. The concluding verse of the historical retrospect (Ps. 136:25) enlarges upon the greatness and goodness of God by including all flesh as the object of His care.
a. Psalm 136:25, and who gives food to every creature. His love endures forever. NIV

IV. The repetitive refrain, involving the second half of each verse, lays stress on God’s covenant love.

A. The psalmist wanted Israel to be reminded of the fact that God’s action, more than theirs, brought about the wonderful things enumerated in the main body of the psalm.

B. In our commentary, we will skip further reference to the refrain, and focus our attention on the statements concerning God’s historical actions that manifested his love.

V. The psalm begins (vv. 1-3) and ends (v. 26) with designations of God’s uniqueness.

A. Psalm 136:1-3, 26, Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good. His love endures forever. Give thanks to the God of gods. His love endures forever. Give thanks to the Lord of lords: His love endures forever. Give thanks to the God of heaven. His love endures forever. NIV

B. This concept forms an inclusion that brackets the psalm and gives specific meaning to the entire psalm.

C. God, and no one else, did and could accomplish the feats declared in the historical retrospect.

D. This concept also implies that God alone is to be worshiped and obeyed (cf. Ex. 20:1-6).

1. Exodus 20:1-6, And God spoke all these words: "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. "You shall have no
other gods before me. "You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing love to a thousand {generations} of those who love me and keep my commandments. NIV

VI. The historical retrospect first mentions God’s creative acts (vv. 5-9).

A. Psalm 136:5-9, who by his understanding made the heavens, His love endures forever. who spread out the earth upon the waters, His love endures forever. who made the great lights— His love endures forever. the sun to govern the day, His love endures forever. the moon and stars to govern the night; His love endures forever. NIV

B. Next, the manifestation of God’s might that delivered Israel from Egyptian bondage (vv. 10-12) and destroyed the pursuing Egyptian army in the Red Sea (vv. 13-15) is declared.

1. Psalm 136:10-12, to him who struck down the first-born of Egypt His love endures forever. and brought Israel out from among them His love endures forever. with a mighty hand and outstretched arm; His love endures forever. NIV

2. Psalm 136:13-15, to him who divided the Red Sea asunder His love endures forever. and brought Israel through the midst of it, His love endures forever. but swept Pharaoh and his army into the Red Sea; His love endures forever. NIV
C. Then, the destruction of the mighty kings of Transjordan and Canaan during the settlement of Israel is mentioned (vv. 16-22).

1. Psalm 136:16-22, to him who led his people through the desert, His love endures forever. who struck down great kings, His love endures forever. and killed mighty kings— His love endures forever. Sihon king of the Amorites His love endures forever. and Og king of Bashan— His love endures forever. and gave their land as an inheritance, His love endures forever. an inheritance to his servant Israel; His love endures forever. NIV

D. Finally, a summative declaration is made concerning God’s deliverance of Israel from her enemies (vv. 23-24).

VII. The vision of the psalmist is enlarged as he declares God’s concern for all living creatures, not just Israel, and not merely human beings (v. 25).

A. Psalm 136:25, and who gives food to every creature. His love endures forever. NIV

Commentary:

Invitation to Praise

Ps. 136:1-3, Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good. His love endures forever. Give thanks to the God of gods. His love endures forever. Give thanks to the Lord of lords: His love endures forever. NIV

Psalm 136:1, Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good. His love endures forever. NIV
I. This verse may have been lifted from a common expression used in Israel’s liturgy of worship (cf. Ps. 106:1; 107:1; 118:1,29; 2 Chron. 7:3).

A. Psalm 106:1, Praise the LORD. Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever. NIV

B. Psalm 107:1, Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever. NIV

C. Psalm 118:1, 29, Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever. Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever. NIV

D. 2 Chronicles 7:3, When all the Israelites saw the fire coming down and the glory of the LORD above the temple, they knelt on the pavement with their faces to the ground, and they worshiped and gave thanks to the LORD, saying, "He is good; his love endures forever." NIV

II. God’s goodness is ample reason to give thanks to Him.

Ps. 136:2, 3, Give thanks to the God of gods. His love endures forever. Give thanks to the Lord of lords: His love endures forever.

I. “God of gods” and “Lord of lords” are superlatives used to magnify the divine supremacy of God (cf. Deut. 10:17; 1 Tim. 6:14-16; Rev. 17:14; 19:16).

A. Deuteronomy 10:17, For the LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who shows no partiality and accepts no bribes. NIV
B. Timothy 6:14-16, to keep this command without spot or blame until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, which God will bring about in his own time—God, the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone is immortal and who lives in unapproachable light, whom no one has seen or can see. To him be honor and might forever. Amen. NIV

C. Revelation 17:14, They will make war against the Lamb, but the Lamb will overcome them because he is Lord of lords and King of kings—and with him will be his called, chosen and faithful followers." NIV

D. Revelation 19:16, On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS. NIV

God's Creative Power

Psalm 136:4-9, to him who alone does great wonders, His love endures forever. who by his understanding made the heavens, His love endures forever. who spread out the earth upon the waters, His love endures forever. who made the great lights— His love endures forever. the sun to govern the day, His love endures forever. the moon and stars to govern the night; His love endures forever. NIV

I. The series of prepositional phrases (infinitive phrases in Hebrew) employed in Ps. 136:4-7 emphasizes the close connection between the description of God's nature (Ps. 136:1-3) and divine activity stemming from that nature.

A. Psalm 136:4-7, to him who alone does great wonders, His love endures forever. who by his understanding made the
heavens, His love endures forever. who spread out the earth upon the waters, His love endures forever. who made the great lights—His love endures forever. NIV

B. Psalm 136:1-3, Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good. His love endures forever. Give thanks to the God of gods. His love endures forever. Give thanks to the Lord of lords: His love endures forever. NIV

C. Ps. 136:8b and Ps. 136:9b are in apposition to Ps. 136:7b.

1. Psalm 136:7-9, who made the great lights—His love endures forever. the sun to govern the day, His love endures forever. the moon and stars to govern the night; His love endures forever. NIV

2. The NIV reduces the series of infinitive phrases, “to him”, to only one.

Ps. 136:4, to him who alone does great wonders, His love endures forever. NIV

I. "Great wonders" are those activities that should instill awe and admiration in the hearts of men.

Ps. 136:5, who by his understanding made the heavens, His love endures forever. NIV

I. “By understanding” (discernment) God “made the heavens” (cf. Ps. 104:24; see notes there).

A. Psalm 104:24, How many are your works, O LORD! In wisdom you made them all; the earth is full of your creatures. NIV
B. God’s wisdom is the source of his creative activities.

Ps. 136:6, who spread out the earth upon the waters, His love endures forever. NIV

I. “Spread out” is one of several metaphors used to describe God's creative activity (cf. Ps. 104:1-9).

A. Psalm 104:1-9, Praise the LORD, O my soul. O LORD my God, you are very great; you are clothed with splendor and majesty. He wraps himself in light as with a garment; he stretches out the heavens like a tent and lays the beams of his upper chambers on their waters. He makes the clouds his chariot and rides on the wings of the wind. He makes winds his messengers, flames of fire his servants. He set the earth on its foundations; it can never be moved. You covered it with the deep as with a garment; the waters stood above the mountains. But at your rebuke the waters fled, at the sound of your thunder they took to flight; they flowed over the mountains, they went down into the valleys, to the place you assigned for them. You set a boundary they cannot cross; never again will they cover the earth. NIV

B. The allusion is to the separation of the waters from the dry land on the third day of creation (Gen. 1:9-10).

1. Genesis 1:9, 10, And God said, "Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear." And it was so. God called the dry ground "land," and the gathered waters he called "seas." And God saw that it was good. NIV

Ps. 136:7, who made the great lights— His love endures forever. NIV
I. “Lights”, in this context, carries the connotation of luminaries.

A. “Great” magnifies their glory and beneficence.

Ps. 136:8, 9, the sun to govern the day, His love endures forever. the moon and stars to govern the night; His love endures forever. NIV

I. “Rule”, in the present context, suggests that which controls the intervals of “day” and “night” (cf. Gen. 1:14-19).

A. Genesis 1:14-19, And God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark seasons and days and years, and let them be lights in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth." And it was so. God made two great lights—the greater light to govern the day and the lesser light to govern the night. He also made the stars. God set them in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth, to govern the day and the night, and to separate light from darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the fourth day. NIV

B. The allusion is to the fourth day of creation.

C. By means of the present tense employed, it is implied that God continues to control the cycles that he created.

Israel's Deliverance

Psalm 136:10-22, to him who struck down the firstborn of Egypt His love endures forever. and brought Israel out from among them His love endures forever. with a mighty hand and outstretched arm; His love endures forever. to him who divided the
Red Sea asunder His love endures forever. and brought Israel through the midst of it, His love endures forever. but swept Pharaoh and his army into the Red Sea; His love endures forever. to him who led his people through the desert, His love endures forever. who struck down great kings, His love endures forever. and killed mighty kings— His love endures forever. Sihon king of the Amorites His love endures forever. and Og king of Bashan— His love endures forever. and gave their land as an inheritance, His love endures forever. an inheritance to his servant Israel; His love endures forever. NIV

I. Infinitive phrases in Hebrew mark the subdivisions (Ps. 136:10, 13, 16, 17).

Ps. 136:10, to him who struck down the firstborn of Egypt His love endures forever. NIV

I. “Struck down the first-born of Egypt” refers to the tenth and last plague (cf. Ex. 12:29; Ps. 78:51; 135:8).

A. Exodus 12:29, At midnight the LORD struck down all the firstborn in Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh, who sat on the throne, to the firstborn of the prisoner, who was in the dungeon, and the firstborn of all the livestock as well. NIV

B. Psalm 78:51, He struck down all the firstborn of Egypt, the firstfruits of manhood in the tents of Ham. NIV

C. Psalm 135:8, He struck down the firstborn of Egypt, the firstborn of men and animals. NIV

D. Phraseology from Exodus is employed here to depict the exodus from Egypt.
Ps. 136:11, and brought Israel out from among them His love endures forever. NIV

I. This last plague resulted in the Pharaoh’s letting Israel go from their midst (cf. Ex. 12:51; Ps. 105:43).

A. Exodus 12:51, And on that very day the LORD brought the Israelites out of Egypt by their divisions. NIV

B. Psalm 105:43, He brought out his people with rejoicing, his chosen ones with shouts of joy; NIV

Ps. 136:12, with a mighty hand and outstretched arm; His love endures forever. NIV

I. Metaphors of strength are employed here (cf. Ex. 6:1; 13:9; Ps. 44:3).

A. Exodus 6:1, Then the LORD said to Moses, "Now you will see what I will do to Pharaoh: Because of my mighty hand he will let them go; because of my mighty hand he will drive them out of his country." NIV

B. Exodus 13:9, This observance will be for you like a sign on your hand and a reminder on your forehead that the law of the LORD is to be on your lips. For the LORD brought you out of Egypt with his mighty hand. NIV

C. Psalm 44:3, It was not by their sword that they won the land, nor did their arm bring them victory; it was your right hand, your arm, and the light of your face, for you loved them. NIV

Ps. 136:13-15, to him who divided the Red Sea asunder His love endures forever. and brought Israel through the midst of it, His
love endures forever. but swept Pharaoh and his army into the Red Sea; His love endures forever. NIV

I. The miracle at the Red Sea is stated in characteristic poetic form (cf. Ex. 14:21; Ps. 78:13).

A. Exodus 14:21, Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and all that night the LORD drove the sea back with a strong east wind and turned it into dry land. The waters were divided, NIV

B. Psalm 78:13, He divided the sea and led them through; he made the water stand firm like a wall. NIV

Ps. 136:16, to him who led his people through the desert, His love endures forever. NIV

I. The wilderness journey is summed up with one sweep of the pen.

Ps. 136:17-22, who struck down great kings, His love endures forever. and killed mighty kings— His love endures forever. Sihon king of the Amorites His love endures forever. and Og king of Bashan— His love endures forever. and gave their land as an inheritance, His love endures forever. an inheritance to his servant Israel; His love endures forever. NIV

I. The conquest of the territory east of the Jordan magnifies God's power and His care for Israel (cf. Ps. 135:8-12).

A. Psalm 135:8-12, He struck down the firstborn of Egypt, the firstborn of men and animals. He sent his signs and wonders into your midst, O Egypt, against Pharaoh and all his servants. He struck down many nations and killed mighty kings— Sihon king of the Amorites, Og king of Ba-
shan and all the kings of Canaan- and he gave their land as an inheritance, an inheritance to his people Israel. NIV

Summary Conclusion

Psalm 136:23-26, to the One who remembered us in our low estate
His love endures forever. and freed us from our enemies, His love endures forever. and who gives food to every creature. His love endures forever. Give thanks to the God of heaven. His love endures forever. NIV

Ps. 136:23, to the One who remembered us in our low estate His love endures forever. NIV

I. God is especially interested in His defenseless people (cf. Ps. 9:12,18; 10:14,17-18; 103:14).

A. Psalm 9:12, 18, For he who avenges blood remembers; he does not ignore the cry of the afflicted. But the needy will not always be forgotten, nor the hope of the afflicted ever perish. NIV

B. Psalm 10:14, 17, 18, But you, O God, do see trouble and grief; you consider it to take it in hand. The victim commits himself to you; you are the helper of the fatherless. You hear, O LORD, the desire of the afflicted; you encourage them, and you listen to their cry, defending the fatherless and the oppressed, in order that man, who is of the earth, may terrify no more. NIV

C. Psalm 103:14, for he knows how we are formed, he remembers that we are dust. NIV

Ps. 136:24, and freed us from our enemies, His love endures forever. NIV
I. God especially rescues his faithful covenant people.

Ps. 136:25, and who gives food to every creature. His love endures forever. NIV

I. God's interest extends to all His creatures.

Ps. 136:26, Give thanks to the God of heaven. His love endures forever. NIV

I. This concluding refrain carries the same force as Ps. 136:1-3.

A. Psalm 136:1-3, Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good. His love endures forever. Give thanks to the God of gods. His love endures forever. Give thanks to the Lord of lords: His love endures forever. NIV

B. This is the only occurrence in the Psalter of God’s being referred to as “the God of heaven”.

C. The title is found in other Old Testament books (Ezra 1:2; 5:11-12; 6:9-10; 7:12,21,23; Neh. 1:4; 2:4; Dan. 2:18,19,44; Jonah 1:9) and twice in the New Testament apocalypse (Rev. 11:13; 16:11).

1. Ezra 1:2, "This is what Cyrus king of Persia says: "The LORD, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth and he has appointed me to build a temple for him at Jerusalem in Judah. NIV

2. Ezra 5:11, 12, This is the answer they gave us: "We are the servants of the God of heaven and earth, and we are rebuilding the temple that was built many years ago, one that a great king of Israel built and
finished. But because our fathers angered the God of heaven, he handed them over to Nebuchadnezzar the Chaldean, king of Babylon, who destroyed this temple and deported the people to Babylon. NIV

3. Ezra 6:9, 10, Whatever is needed—young bulls, rams, male lambs for burnt offerings to the God of heaven, and wheat, salt, wine and oil, as requested by the priests in Jerusalem—must be given them daily without fail, so that they may offer sacrifices pleasing to the God of heaven and pray for the well-being of the king and his sons. NIV

4. Ezra 7:12, 21, 23, Artaxerxes, king of kings, To Ezra the priest, a teacher of the Law of the God of heaven: Greetings. Now I, King Artaxerxes, order all the treasurers of Trans-Euphrates to provide with diligence whatever Ezra the priest, a teacher of the Law of the God of heaven, may ask of you—Whatever the God of heaven has prescribed, let it be done with diligence for the temple of the God of heaven. Why should there be wrath against the realm of the king and of his sons? NIV

5. Nehemiah 1:4, When I heard these things, I sat down and wept. For some days I mourned and fasted and prayed before the God of heaven. NIV

6. Nehemiah 2:4, The king said to me, "What is it you want?" Then I prayed to the God of heaven, NIV

7. Daniel 2:18, 19, 44, He urged them to plead for mercy from the God of heaven concerning this mystery, so that he and his friends might not be executed with the rest of the wise men of Babylon. During the
night the mystery was revealed to Daniel in a vision. Then Daniel praised the God of heaven"In the time of those kings, the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that will never be destroyed, nor will it be left to another people. It will crush all those kingdoms and bring them to an end, but it will itself endure forever. NIV

8. Jonah 1:9, He answered, "I am a Hebrew and I worship the LORD, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the land." NIV

9. Revelation 11:13, At that very hour there was a severe earthquake and a tenth of the city collapsed. Seven thousand people were killed in the earthquake, and the survivors were terrified and gave glory to the God of heaven. NIV

10. Revelation 16:11, and cursed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, but they refused to repent of what they had done. NIV

Application:

I. God, who acted within the history of Israel, is still active in the affairs of nations.

   A. “Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a disgrace to any people” (Prov. 14:34).

   B. Genuine gratitude and thanksgiving to God for his providential care of our nation should be a constant part of our prayer life.
1. Such gratitude should also translate into godly living and true worship of God.
Questions

Psalm 136:1-26

(Questions based on NIV text.)

1. “______________ ______________ to the ________________,
for he is _______________. ______________ ______________
_____________ ______________. ______________ ___________
to the ___________ of ____________. _____________ ___________
to the ___________ of ______________; ________________
______________ ______________.”

1. “To ____________ who ____________ does __________
_____________ . who by his _______________ made the
____________’ ______________ ______________. who out the ______________ upon the
____________’ ______________ ______________. who ____________ the ______________
- ___________________ ______________ ______________.
the ______________ to ______________ _ the ______________,
the ______________ and ______________ to ______________
the ______________; ______________ ______________.”

3. “to him who ______________ ______________ the
____________ of ______________ ______________ ______________
____________ ______________. and ______________ ______________
out from ______________ ______________ ______________ ______________.
____________ ______________ ______________ ______________. with a
____________ ______________ ______________ ______________.”
4. “to him who _________________ the ________________
_________________________. and brought ________________
through the _____________ of it, ______________________
_________________________. but ______________________
and his _____________ into the ________________ _____________;
_________________________.

5. “to him who _________________ his ________________ through
the ________________, ______________________
_________________________. who ______________________
_________________________. and ______________________
- ________________________
_________________________. of the ________________ _____________.” and ______________________
_________________________. and ______________________
_________________________. and ______________________
_________________________. as an ________________,
and ______________________ to his ________________ _____________;
_________________________.

6. “to the ________________ who _________________ us in our
_________________________. and _________________ us
from our ________________, ______________________
_________________________. and ______________________
gives ________________ to ______________________
_________________________.”
7. “____________________ __________________ to the __________ to the __________ of _____________. ___________ ___________ ___________ ___________ ___________.”

8. How many times is “His love endures forever” found in Psalm 136? ________________________________

9. List all the reasons given in Psalm 136 that support the fact that “His love endures forever.” ________________________________
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   ________________________________
   ________________________________
   ________________________________
   ________________________________
   ________________________________
   ________________________________
   ________________________________

10. In what ways are Psalm 135 and 136 similar? ________________________________
    ________________________________
    ________________________________
    ________________________________
    ________________________________
    ________________________________
    ________________________________

11. When, in what historical setting and by whom was Psalm 136 written? ________________________________
    ________________________________
    ________________________________
    ________________________________
    ________________________________
    ________________________________
    ________________________________
    ________________________________
    ________________________________
12. Of what elements is Psalm 136 composed?

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________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

13. In what ways is God shown to be unique in Psalm 136?

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________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

14. List in order all the historical events mentioned in Psalm 136. What was the purpose for mentioning these events?

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

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________________________________________________________________________

15. For what living creatures did the psalmist say God cared?

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

16. What use may have been made of the expression in verse 1 and found elsewhere in the Old Testament?

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________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________
17. ______________  ________________ is  ________________ ________________ to give ________________ to Him.

18. “_________________ ________________ ____________” and “_________________ ________________ ________________” are ______________ used to ________________ the ______________ ________________ of ________________.”

19. Psalm 136:4-7 emphasizes the close connection between the ______________ of ________________’s ________________ and ________________ ________________ from that ________________.

20. “_________________ ________________” are those ______________ that should ________________ ________________ and ________________ in the ________________ of ________________.

21. God’s ______________, his ______________ (______________) are the ______________ of his ________________ ________________.

22. Give examples that show God continues to create and to control he cycles he created. _________________________________________

23. List biblical metaphors of strength which refer to God’s mighty works. _______________________________________
24. Who were Sihon King of the Amorites and Og King of Bashan? How did they relate to the enduring love of God addressed in Psalm 136? __________________________________________________________

25. ______________ is especially ______________ in His __________________________. What do other passages say on this subject? __________________________________________________________

26. What does the Bible say about Jehovah’s being “the God of heaven”? What does this title mean? __________________________

27. ____________, who ___________ ____________ within the __________ of ____________, is still ____________ in the __________ of ________________.
28. “_____________ ________________ a _______________,
but _______________ is a ________________ to ________________
______________.”

29. _______________ _______________ and ________________
to _______________ for his ________________ ________________
of our _______________ should be a ________________ part of our
____________ ________________.

30. Such _______________ should also ________________ into
____________ _______________ and ________________ ________________
of_______________. 