

Psalm 66:8-20 The Message (MSG)

8-12 Bless our God, O peoples!

Give him a thunderous welcome!

Didn't he set us on the road to life?

Didn't he keep us out of the ditch?

He trained us first,

passed us like silver through refining fires,

Brought us into hardscrabble country,

pushed us to our very limit,

Road-tested us inside and out,

took us to hell and back;

Finally he brought us

to this well-watered place.

13-15 I'm bringing my prizes and presents to your house.

I'm doing what I said I'd do,

What I solemnly swore I'd do

that day when I was in so much trouble:

The choicest cuts of meat

for the sacrificial meal;

Even the fragrance

of roasted lamb is like a meal!

Or make it an ox

garnished with goat meat!

16-20 All believers, come here and listen,

let me tell you what God did for me.

I called out to him with my mouth,
my tongue shaped the sounds of music.

If I had been cozy with evil,
the Lord would never have listened.

But he most surely *did* listen,
he came on the double when he heard my prayer.

Blessed be God: he didn't turn a deaf ear,
he stayed with me, loyal in his love.