

LOADED WITH BENEFITS

“Blessed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with benefits,
even the God of our salvation. Selah.” Psalm 68:19

See a 3 fold gradation of divine bounty - benefits

1. The measure - not sparingly, but by the “whole load”
2. The subject - unworthy “us” (*rebels*)
3. The time - “daily”

Survey this vast load!

A world to live in
A life to enjoy
Air to breathe in
Earth to tread on
Fire to warm us
Water to cool and cleanse us
Clothes to cover us
Food to nourish us
Sleep to refresh us
Houses to shelter us
Variety of creatures to serve and delight us

Here were a just load, but now if we yet add...

Civility of breeding
Dearness of friends
Competency of estate
Degrees of honour
Honesty or dignity of vocation
Favour of princes
Success in employments
Domestic comforts
Outward peace
Good reputation
Preservation from dangers
Rescue from evils

The load is well mended, yet we come closer and add...

Due proportion of body
Integrity of parts
Perfection of senses
Strength of nature
Mediocrity of health
Sufficiency of appetite
Vigour of digestion
Wholesome temper of seasons
Freedom from cares

This course must needs heighten it yet more, if still you add...

The order, and power, and exercise of our inward faculties enriched with wisdom, art, learning, experience expressed by a not un-handsome elocution

Now lay all these together that concern estate, body, mind...

How can the axle-tree of the soul but crack under the load of these favours? But, if from what God hath done for us as men, we look to what he hath done for us as Christians ...

Embraced us with an everlasting love
Moulded us anew
Enlivened us by his Spirit
Fed us by his Word and sacraments
Clothed us with his merits
Bought us with his blood
Becoming vile to make us glorious
Becoming a curse to invest us with blessedness
In a word, that he hath given Himself to us, his Son for us

***Oh the height, and depth, and breadth* of the rich mercies of our God! Oh the boundless, topless, bottomless load of divine benefits, whose immensity reaches from the centre of this earth, to the unlimited extent of the very empyreal heavens!**

**“Oh that men would praise the LORD for his goodness,
and for his wonderful works to the children of men!” Psalm 107:8**