

## **PSALM 81 An Appeal for Israel's Repentance!**

1/28/23 – Sat Morn Prayer - P. Twente, 714 425-9221; [ptwente@gmail.com](mailto:ptwente@gmail.com) [www.ptwente.com](http://www.ptwente.com)

***Psa 81:1 Sing aloud to God our strength; Make a joyful shout to the God of Jacob.***

**SHOUT TO THE LORD** Hillsong (4:22)

*My Jesus, my Saviour Lord there is none like You All of my days I want to praise The wonders of Your mighty love My comfort, my shelter Tower of refuge and strength Let every breath, all that I am Never cease to worship You **Shout** to the Lord all the Earth, let us sing Power and majesty, praise to the King Mountains bow down and the seas will roar At the sound of Your name I sing for joy at the work of Your hands Forever I'll love You, forever I'll stand Nothing compares to the promise I have In You (2X)*

***Shout** to the Lord all the Earth, let us sing Power and majesty, praise to the King Mountains bow down and the seas will roar At the sound of Your name I sing for joy at the work of Your hands Forever I'll love You, forever I'll stand Nothing compares to the promise I have Oh nothing compares to the promise I have Nothing compares to the promise I have In You*

**Psalm 81** – Praise is called for to celebrate some memorable day, perhaps the Passover, whereupon the deliverance out of Egypt is described, vs. 1-7. Then the Lord gently chides His people for their ingratitude, and pictures their happy estate had they but been obedient to His commands!

**PSALM 81** – *Oh, That My People Would Listen to Me - To the Chief Musician. On An Instrument of Gath. A Psalm of Asaph.*

***Psa 81:1 Sing aloud to God our strength; Make a joyful shout to the God of Jacob.***

- Psalm eighty-one begins with an encouragement to sing aloud to God!
- The calling of the people to sing to God, make a joyful noise.

***Psa 81:2 Raise a song and strike the timbrel, The pleasant harp with the lute.***

- *Raise a song.* That is, one of their songs that they sang. *strike the timbrel* (tambourine), *The pleasant harp with the lute.*

***Psa 81:3 Blow the trumpet at the time of the New Moon, At the full moon, on our solemn feast day.***

***Psa 81:4 For this is a statute for Israel, A law of the God of Jacob.***

***Psa 81:5 This He established in Joseph as a testimony, When He went throughout the land of Egypt, Where I heard a language I did not understand.***

- The harp and the psaltery were stringed instruments that they used to accompany the singers.
- Let's return to the Lord, sing to God and bring out the musical instruments. Let's get together, let's worship the Lord and let's turn back to God!

***Psa 81:6 "I removed his shoulder from the burden; His hands were freed from the baskets.***

- Now God in verse six seems to answer and respond as He tells them and reminds them of His past blessings in their history.
- *I removed his shoulder from the burden:* That is the burden that the Egyptians had placed upon them. They would put these straps over their shoulders and they would carry these heavy bags of bricks or they would put the yoke that was over both shoulders and on each side where these bags, heavy loads.
- *His hands were freed from the baskets.* They would carry in these large pots the clay to make the bricks. maybe are carrying two hundred pounds with the yokes and the pots of the end. All day long in the hot sun being pressed on by the slave task masters and God said I delivered them from that.

***Psa 81:7 You called in trouble, and I delivered you; I answered you in the secret place of thunder; I tested you at the waters of Meribah. Selah***

- So it was that they cried to God by reason of their task masters. God sent Moses to the Pharaoh to demand the release of the people.
- God brought them out by the plagues and the thunder that God destroyed the crops of the Egyptians and by other things.
- Twice in their wilderness experience, once in towards the beginning and once towards the end, they came to a place where they were dying of thirst. There was over a million and a half of them making that trek through the wilderness.

***Psa 81:8 "Hear, O My people, and I will admonish you! O Israel, if you will listen to Me!***

- Now God is calling.
- *If you will listen to Me!* The people's resistance to obeying God led to their punishment. God identifies the root of the people's problem as their own stubborn heart. They wanted to follow their own ways and refused to listen to God!

***Psa 81:9 There shall be no foreign god among you; Nor shall you worship any foreign god.***

- You've got to get rid of these gods that you've been worshiping. You cannot serve God and mammon. What is mammon? Money, materialism, possessions or things that money could buy. You can't serve both God and mammon. They can't both be the god of your life. It's got to be one or the other.
- Which Israel had begun to do. They were prospered, they were blessed, God made them strong, he had subdued their enemies and they were wealthy. During the reign of Solomon, silver was as common as rocks in Jerusalem. They were a wealthy nation but they began to worship the material things that their wealth could bring to them. In their luxury of their wealth they forgot God! They forsook God. They turned away from God and began to worship the world, the flesh.

***Psa 81:10 I am the LORD your God, Who brought you out of the land of Egypt; Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it.***

- I'll take care of you; I'll take care of your every need.
- *"Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it."* Because He had brought them out of Egypt, He could do great things for them. He had proved His power and His good will. It remained only for His people to believe in Him and ask large things of Him. If their expectations were enlarged to the utmost degree, they could not exceed the bounty of the Lord. Like little birds in the nest open their mouths widely enough, and perhaps the parent birds fail to fill them, but it will never be so with our God. His treasures of grace are inexhaustible!



***Psa 81:11 "But My people would not heed My voice, And Israel would have none of Me.***

***Psa 81:12 So I gave them over to their own stubborn heart, To walk in their own counsels.***

- God called to them to find in Him their full satisfaction. In your love for Me, in your relationship with Me, find that fulfillment that you're searching for. I'll fill your life. I'll satisfy your life and truly serving God completely, giving your life to God complete is a very satisfying experience! God testifies of the fulfilling experience of letting Him be the God of your life. God said that they would not listen, so God just gave them up to their own hearts lust. If that's what you want, then take it.
- ***To walk in their own counsels.*** As the result they became weak as a nation. They became morally weak, spiritually weak and then physically weak and as result they went into captivity. Now, they are experiencing this horrible bondage again. God had brought them out of the bondage of Egypt but now they are back into bondage again.

- It's a sad thing when a person has experienced the power of God in their lives and had been freed from the bondage of corruption, blessed of God, anointed of God! Somehow, somehow they grow cold and turn their backs on God. They begin to worship strange gods and they end up again in bondage. So was Israel. God wept.

***Psa 81:13 "Oh, that My people would listen to Me, That Israel would walk in My ways!***

***Psa 81:14 I would soon subdue their enemies, And turn My hand against their adversaries.***

- Verse thirteen to the end is God's lament.
- **If** they only would have done that. **If** they only would have listened.
- They wouldn't be captives today. I would have destroyed their enemies.

***Psa 81:15 The haters of the LORD would pretend submission to Him, But their fate would endure forever.***

- God declares the blessing that He would have bestowed upon them had they only been faithful and true to Him. Even as God speaks to us today of those things that He desires to do for you as His child. Oh, if we would only listen, if we would only hearken!

***Psa 81:16 He would have fed them also with the finest of wheat; And with honey from the rock I would have satisfied you."***

- God's cry, God's lament, is over the loss of the people. That is what they have lost. The lost blessings, the things that they could've known! The things they could've experienced, the things that God wanted to do for them but was not able to do for them because they wouldn't listen to Him and follow in His ways.
- History repeats itself over and over again. Jesus crying over Jerusalem over the very same thing. He had come to bring them God's peace. He had come to bring to them God's salvation! He had come to bring the kingdom of God but they wouldn't listen, they wouldn't hearken. As the result, they were to be destroyed; the Roman troops would come in and level the city. They would ravish the women, kill the little children, dash the children in the streets; they would be unmerciful in their destruction. Jesus seeing that wept over Jerusalem. *"Thou that stonest the prophet all that God has sent to you. If you only knew in this thy day the things that belong to your peace. But they seem to be hid from your eyes. Therefore the enemy is going to come and besiege the city and level the city to the ground. Your little children will be dashed in the streets"*.
- He weeps over their lost opportunity, over their refusal to allow the Lord to do for them those things that God was wanting to do for them. They wouldn't listen to God. The end result was always, instead of victory, it was captivity or slaves to their enemy.
- So today history doesn't change, it repeats. We see today so many people that God loves and God wants to bless. God desires to forgive their sins, to wash them, to make them clean, to give them power over sin but they won't listen to God! They continue on in their own stubborn ways. God weeps over the lost opportunity. He can see that the path that they have chosen is a path that will lead to slavery, it will lead to defeat.
- It will lead to bondage and you're just missing out on all that God desires to do. ***(Psa 81:13) "Oh, that My people would listen to Me, That Israel would walk in My ways!*** I would have defeated their enemies. They could've stayed in the land. I would have given them the finest wheat." He wanted to do these things for them even as God wants to do these things for you. ***(Deu 32:13-14) "He made him ride in the heights of the earth, That he might eat the produce of the fields; He made him draw honey from the rock, And oil from the flinty rock; [14] Curds from the cattle, and milk of the flock, With fat of lambs; And rams of the breed of Bashan, and goats, With the choicest wheat; And you drank wine, the blood of the grapes. (Job 29:6) When my steps were bathed with cream, And the rock poured out rivers of oil for me!***
- He wants to forgive your sins. He wants to give you freedom over the world of flesh and the devil. God wants to bestow upon you His blessings and the richness of His grace. We try to find it on our own and we turn our backs upon the law of God, we do not walk in His commandments and as a result

we go into captivity. We are being destroyed. God stands by and weeps because He won't violate your power of choice. He won't force himself upon you. He will do His best by persuasion to turn your mind and heart towards Him. If you persist and insist on your way, then finally God will give you up to your own heart's lust. Then He just stands and weeps as He sees you going down the path that's going to destroy you.

### **SUMMARY**

- God help us to listen, to hearken to Your voice!
- You have called to us by your word. We thank You that You have left for us this record of history so that we know Your ways, Your desires and Your thoughts towards Your people. That they are good and not evil. That it is Your desire to bless Your children, to free them from bondage from captivity, to give them the finest of wheat, to satisfy them, Lord, with the honey out of the rock.
- O God, help us to listen, to hearken unto Your voice, to walk in Your ways!

### **OPEN OUR EYES, LORD** - Maranatha Music (4:30)

*Open our eyes, Lord We want to see Jesus  
To reach out and touch Him And say that we love Him  
Open our ears, Lord And help us to listen  
Open our eyes, Lord We want to see Jesus (2X)*

**FOR OUR NATION'S LEADERS: PRAY FOR CALIFORNIA: PRAY FOR WORLD LEADERS: - Pray for World Leaders, especially their salvation, including: Xi Jinping – China; Narendra Modi- India; Joe Biden – USA; Joko Widodo - Indonesia; Luiz Lula da Silva - Brazil; Arif Alvi - Pakistan; Shehbaz Sharif - Nigeria; Hasina Wazed - Bangladesh; Vladimir Putin- Russia; Lopez Obrador – Mexico; Benjamin Netanyahu – Israel; Olaf Scholtz – Germany; Rishi Sunak – U.K.; Kim Jong-un – North Korea; Yoon Suk Yeol– South Korea.**

**PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH/PERSECUTED CHURCH; SCHOOLS; POLICE OFFICERS/MILITARY;  
ISRAEL:**