

PSALM 85 Prayer That the LORD will Restore Favor to the Land (Your People, Your Church)!

2/25/23 – Sat Morn Prayer - P. Twente, 714 425-9221; ptwente@gmail.com www.ptwente.com

Psa 85:6 Will You not **revive** us again, That Your people may rejoice in You?

REVIVE US AGAIN! Mark Hayes/William P. Mackay/John J. Husband Gaither (2:06)

*We praise Thee, O God! For the Son of Thy love For Jesus Who died And is now gone above
Hallelujah! Thine the glory Hallelujah! Amen Hallelujah! Thine the glory Revive us again*

*All glory and praise To the Lamb that was slain Who has taken our sins And has cleansed every stain
Hallelujah! Thine the glory Hallelujah! Amen Hallelujah! Thine the glory Revive us again Revive us
again*

*Fill each heart with Thy love May each soul be rekindled With fire from above Hallelujah! Thine the
glory Hallelujah! Amen Hallelujah! Thine the glory Revive us again*

*Revive us again Fill each heart with Thy love May each soul be rekindled With fire from above
Hallelujah! Thine the glory Hallelujah! Amen Hallelujah! Thine the glory Revive us again!*

Psalm 85 – the Psalm eighty-five was probably written after the return from the Babylonian captivity. It is to the chief musician, and it is inscribed as a psalm for the sons of Korah. The psalm begins with thanksgiving to God for bringing them back from their captivity.

PSALM 85 – *Revive Us Again - To the Chief Musician. A Psalm Of the Sons of Korah. LORD,*

Psa 85:1 You have been favorable to Your land; You have brought back the captivity of Jacob.

- The acknowledgement that God has favored them in freeing them from that long period of captivity.

Psa 85:2 You have forgiven the iniquity of Your people; You have covered all their sin. Selah

- It was quite obvious the reason why the nation of Israel went into captivity was because of their iniquity and because of their sin. The prophets were constantly warning them that unless they repented and turned from their iniquities that they would be led captive into the nations. They did not repent and thus they did go into captivity. Now the acknowledgement that God has forgiven and that God has covered their sins.

Psa 85:3 You have taken away all Your wrath; You have turned from the fierceness of Your anger.

- It's interesting that he makes this statement and yet the next few verses are really sort of a cry unto God because there still seems to be a residue of anger or there seems not to be that complete restoration. After they came back from the captivity in Babylon through the decree of the Persian king Cyrus that they had begun the building of the temple under Ezra, Zerubbabel and Joshua. It was not easy living.
- A lot of times when we go back to that special place of our childhood we find that it isn't anything like we remembered it. There are those things that are in our minds that are sort of dreams of "those

were the days my friend, we thought they'd never end" and we go back and the house we used to live in looks like a shack now. Things are so different. We've developed in our minds sort of a scheme. We remember some important thoughts, but we make up and fantasize about the rest, building it up as a glorious home. It was big. You go back and realize it isn't all that you have conjured up to be in the years of intervening.

- When they got back to Jerusalem things were really a mess. They didn't expect that it would be as bad as it really was. It was hard. It was tough. It was not an easy life. Thus, they became demoralized and discouraged. Later on, when Nehemiah was the cupbearer to Artaxerxes and some fellows had come back from Jerusalem they said, "How are things in Jerusalem?" It was a dream of all kids. He'd never seen it, but he had heard about it from all of the ancients and they said, "It is a mess. It is really bad. The people are discouraged and demoralized." It wasn't all glory days when they returned from captivity. It was tough.
- The judgement of God for their sin has been accomplished and fulfilled. The fierceness of the anger of God against the people that brought their captivity is over. Yet they have not come into a full position of blessing, of that they once knew.

Psa 85:4 Restore us, O God of our salvation, And cause Your anger toward us to cease.

Psa 85:5 Will You be angry with us forever? Will You prolong Your anger to all generations?

- Lord, are we going to have to endure this kind of hardship from now on? The plea is for God to turn again in blessing upon His people.

Psa 85:6 Will You not revive us again, That Your people may rejoice in You?

- God bring new life. That "revive" is always the sense of bringing new life to your people.

Psa 85:7 Show us Your mercy, LORD, And grant us Your salvation.

- When Habakkuk was complaining to God before their captivity because of the corrupted conditions of the nation, the Lord informed Habakkuk that He was aware of what was going on. He was ready to take care of it. He was going to use the Babylonian army as His instrument of justice and judgement. They were going to destroy Jerusalem. Habakkuk said, "I do not understand that! Why should you use a more evil nation to destroy your people?" Then he said, "I will go into the tower and I will wait to see!"
- Here the psalmist offers his prayer to God that God will again send His salvation. That God will revive them that they might again have that rejoicing in the land. That God would show His mercy.

Psa 85:8 I will hear what God the LORD will speak, For He will speak peace To His people and to His saints; But let them not turn back to folly.

- *I will hear. I am going to listen.* I think that there is an important part of prayer that we often times miss. That is, that waiting upon God to listen to His voice. So many times when we pray we bring so many issues before the Lord. We ask the Lord to show us, to guide us, to help us. Then, we never wait around to hear the answer. I think that many times God would answer if we would just wait awhile. We say, "Lord I don't understand this" and then we get up, leave and we are out the door. God has not had a chance to respond. I think that there is an important time of having presented my complaint, then my plea as the psalmist did. Then, I wait to see what God's going to say. I wait for a response. I wait for an answer.
- I have discovered something rather interesting in prayer. That is, when I asked God direct questions, if I wait, God quite often will give me a direct answer to the direct question. I have learned to ask the question and then wait upon God for an answer.

- *I will hear what God the LORD will speak: for he will speak peace unto his people, and to his saints:* God's word to us are always words of peace. God wants peace with you. God has provided a basis for peace with you and the basis for peace is through the work of Jesus Christ.
- *For he will speak peace unto his people, and to his saints: but let them not turn again to his folly.* It was their folly that brought them into captivity. It was their folly that brought them the judgement of God upon the nation. So God will speak peace but let them not turn again to the folly that brought them to that place of judgement.

Psa 85:9 Surely His salvation is near to those who fear Him, That glory may dwell in our land.

- In Romans chapter ten verses nine and ten Paul, speaking about salvation, said to not think it's unattainable or that you can't reach it. It's somewhere way off in the heavens so someone has to ascend to bring it down to us. He said, "Salvation is very close to you" even if you might be one of the rankest sinners in the world. I mean if you look at your past and say, "I am a mess". It doesn't matter how deep you've gone into the pit of sin, you are still very near to salvation. *"Salvation is very close to you. It's really as close as your mouth for if you will confess with your mouth that Jesus Christ is Lord and believe in your heart that God has raised him from the dead, you will be saved"*
- That's how close you are to knowing the power of God and the deliverance of God in your life. Just a breath away. Confession to God that I'm a sinner and I believe in Jesus Christ. He is Your Son! You have raised Him from the dead! That is just how close salvation is.

Psa 85:10 Mercy and truth have met together; Righteousness and peace have kissed.

- Then this beautiful scripture.
- Where did *mercy and truth* meet? It met in the person of Jesus Christ! Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth and the life!" It isn't really justice to forgive the guilty, that is a miscarriage of justice. We often cry out today against the judicial system that releases guilty people into our society because of some technicality. You know they are guilty. They even confess to their guilt but they weren't told of their rights prior to their confession. So then they are released by the court of their judicial system. We cry out, "That's not justice. That is not truth. That is not fair." Justice demands the penalty be exacted for the crime.
- Mercy is the forgiveness of the wrong. You cannot be merciful without there being a violation of justice and truth. Yet God is merciful and yet He forgives the guilty. *Mercy and truth are met together.* Where did they meet together? In Jesus Christ. For you see, the way that God could be merciful to you a sinner and still be just, which He must be because He is God, is that He takes the guilt of your sin and puts it over on His Son Jesus Christ. He, in turn died for your sin, paid the penalty for your guilt so that through Jesus Christ, God could have mercy upon you, and you don't have to pay the penalty for your own sin. Justice has been served because the penalty was paid through Jesus Christ. *So, Mercy and truth have met together.*
- *Righteousness and peace have kissed.* God is still righteous in His mercy and the righteousness and peace. I can have peace with God. I can be righteous before God through Jesus Christ. It is sort of a prophecy here. The fulfillment happened in the person of Christ where mercy and truth did meet and righteousness peace kissed each other.

Psa 85:11 Truth shall spring out of the earth, And righteousness shall look down from heaven.

Psa 85:12 Yes, the LORD will give what is good; And our land will yield its increase.

- Remember back a little ways in verse five when the psalmist was saying, "Lord will You be angry forever? Will Your anger continue out to all generations? Will You not revive us again? I will listen to what God is going to say. I know what God says will be peace to His people." So, the

confidence with which the psalm ends, “The Lord will give that which is good, our land shall yield her increase. There will be the revival, the restoration.

Psa 85:13 Righteousness will go before Him, And shall make His footsteps our pathway.

- A glorious psalm!

BENEATH THE CROSS Clephane/Maker - Maranatha (4:54)

1 Beneath the cross of Jesus I fain would take my stand, the shadow of a mighty Rock within a weary land; a home within the wilderness, a rest upon the way, from the burning of the noontide heat and the burden of the day.

2 Upon the cross of Jesus mine eye at times can see the very dying form of One who suffered there for me: and from my stricken heart with tears two wonders I confess, the wonders of redeeming love and my unworthiness.

3 I take, O cross, thy shadow for my abiding place: I ask no other sunshine than the sunshine of his face; content to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss; my sinful self my only shame, my glory all the cross.

Psa 85:9 Surely His salvation is near to those who fear Him, That glory may dwell in our land.

YOU DESERVE THE GLORY - Terry MacAlmon (4:30)

*You deserve the glory and the honor Lord we lift our hands in worship
As we lift Your holy name You deserve the glory and the honor
Lord we lift our hands in worship As we lift Your holy name*

*[Chorus] For You are great You do miracles so great
There is no one else like You There is no one else like You (2x)*

*You deserve the glory and the honor Lord we lift our hands in worship
As we lift Your holy name You deserve the glory and the honor
Lord we lift our hands in worship As we lift Your holy name (Chorus)*

*[Chorus] For You are great You do miracles so great
There is no one else like You There is no one else like You (2x)
Let's Give Him Praise! HALLELUJAH!*

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: