



## Belonging to God

*Psalms 81:1-16*

8/10/2025

### THE PLIGHT OF ISRAEL

Book three of Psalms has many outcries and laments to God. It is thought to reflect Israel's sorrows while in exile in Babylon. Psalm 81 is considered a response from God to His people.

The commands of Psalm 81 are a sharp contrast to Israel's exiled, sorrowful circumstances and serve as an important \_\_\_\_\_ of who their \_\_\_\_\_ is.

### A CALL TO PRAISE

- To \_\_\_\_\_ your \_\_\_\_\_ to God and what is true about life
- To \_\_\_\_\_ you of what is of most importance and value
- To \_\_\_\_\_ your \_\_\_\_\_, reminding you to whom you belong
- In \_\_\_\_\_, not just the good times

### GOD'S PROVIDENCE + HUMANITY'S REJECTION

God was revealing Himself to the world through Israel.

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ in judgement
- \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ and the worship of things that cannot save
- His desire for a \_\_\_\_\_ relationship with all people

The world is a broken, disappointing and often frightening place, full of uncertainty and corruption. In the midst of this, God is calling us to lift our eyes higher to Him, to not cling to this world, but \_\_\_\_\_.

### THE SALVATION OF GOD & HIS FAITHFULNESS TO HIS PROMISES

The purpose of the world is to be a place where human beings can exist to fellowship with and enjoy loving relationship with God. This fellowship with God and existence in His presence, is our ultimate good – humanity's true pinnacle.

God still \_\_\_\_\_ our \_\_\_\_\_, even after all our rejection of Him.

\_\_\_\_\_ is God's ultimate providence for the plight of humanity and is the \_\_\_\_\_ to salvation, redemption and a future where those who desire a life with God will finally enjoy that. (John 14:1-3, 6-7. John 7:37-39)

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## Psalm 81:1-16

- <sup>1</sup>Sing for joy to God our strength;  
shout aloud to the God of Jacob!
- <sup>2</sup>Begin the music, strike the timbrel,  
play the melodious harp and lyre.
- <sup>3</sup>Sound the ram's horn at the New Moon,  
and when the moon is full, on the day of our festival;
- <sup>4</sup>this is a decree for Israel,  
an ordinance of the God of Jacob.
- <sup>5</sup>When God went out against Egypt,  
he established it as a statute for Joseph.  
I heard an unknown voice say:
- <sup>6</sup>"I removed the burden from their shoulders;  
their hands were set free from the basket.
- <sup>7</sup>In your distress you called and I rescued you,  
I answered you out of a thundercloud;  
I tested you at the waters of Meribah.
- <sup>8</sup>Hear me, my people, and I will warn you—  
if you would only listen to me, Israel!
- <sup>9</sup>You shall have no foreign god among you;  
you shall not worship any god other than me.
- <sup>10</sup>I am the LORD your God,  
who brought you up out of Egypt.  
Open wide your mouth and I will fill it.
- <sup>11</sup>"But my people would not listen to me;  
Israel would not submit to me.
- <sup>12</sup>So I gave them over to their stubborn hearts  
to follow their own devices.
- <sup>13</sup>"If my people would only listen to me,  
if Israel would only follow my ways,
- <sup>14</sup>how quickly I would subdue their enemies  
and turn my hand against their foes!
- <sup>15</sup>Those who hate the LORD would cringe before him,  
and their punishment would last forever.
- <sup>16</sup>But you would be fed with the finest of wheat;  
with honey from the rock I would satisfy you."

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