PSALMS BOOK THREE

Psalm 80

For the director of music. To [the tune of,] "The Lilies of the Covenant." Of Asaph. A Psalm.

- 1. Hear us, O Shepherd of Israel, You who lead Joseph like a flock; You who sit enthroned ("abide, dwell") between the cherubim,
- a. shine forth before Ephraim, Benjamin and Manasseh.
- b. Awaken ("stir up, arouse") Your might; come and save (or "deliver") us.
- 2. Restore (or "<u>renew</u>") us, O God; make Your face shine upon us ("<u>show us favor</u>"), that we may be saved. (e.g., Nu 6:25, Ps 4:6, 31:16)
- a. O LORD God Almighty (Ps 46:7), how long will Your anger smolder against the prayers of Your people? (Prv 1:20-33, Is 1:13)
- You have fed them with the bread of tears; You have made them drink tears by the bowlful.
- You have made us s source of contention to our neighbors, (e.g., Ps 79:4)
- and our enemies mock ("deride") us.
- Restore us, O God Almighty ("of Hosts"), make Your face shine upon us, that we may be saved.
- b. You brought ("plucked out") a vine out of Egypt; You drove out the nations and planted it. (For further vineyard metaphor, look to Is 5:1-7 and Mtt 21:33-45).
- You cleared the ground for it, and it took root (deeply) and filled the land. (Is 5:2)
- The mountains were covered with its dashed, the mighty cedars with its branches.
- It sent out its boughs to the Sea, its shoots as far as the River. (Dt 11:24)
- c. Why have You broken down its walls so that all who pass by pick its grapes? (Is 5:5-6)
- Boars from the forest ravage ("tear off") it
- and the creatures ("beasts") of the field feed on it.
- 3. Return to us ["please/we beseech"], O God Almighty!
- a. Look [down] from heaven and see!
- b. Watch over ("care for, visit") this vine, the root Your right hand has planted, the son ("root, shoot, branch") You have raised up ("made strong, established") for Yourself.
- Your vine (" $\underline{I}\underline{f}$ ") is cut down; it is burned in the fire; at Your rebuke Your people perish. (Is 2:12-22, Hos 10:5-8, Rev 6:15)
- Let Your hand rest on the man at Your right hand, the son (or "<u>branch</u>") of man You have raised up ("made strong") for Yourself.
- * Then we will not turn away from You;
- * Revive us ("cause us to live"), and we will call on Your name.
- * Restore us, O Lord God Almighty; make Your face shine upon us, that we may be saved