

**PSALMS**  
**Book Three**  
**Psalm 85**

*For the director of music. Of the Sons of Korah. A psalm.*

***This psalm appears to be a prayer for favor and mercy. The exiles had returned and while they rejoiced in their restoration, things could be better. (See Ezr 3-4, Neh 1:1-3, Hag 1:1-11). At times when we have rebelled and experienced God's chastening, we can be relieved that we are right with our Lord, yet wonder how long until our lives experience His blessing. Gal 6:7-10***

**1. You showed favor to Your land, O LORD; You restored the fortunes of Jacob.** (2 Chr 36:22-23).

a. You forgave ("lifted") the iniquity of Your people and covered all their sins. (Is 40:1-2, Lev 26:34-35, 2 Chr 36:20-21, Ps 32:1-2).

Selah

b. You set aside all Your wrath and turned from Your fierce ("burning") anger.

**2. Restore us again, O God our Savior ("of our salvation"), and put away Your displeasure (or "vexation") toward [us].**

a. Will You be angry with us forever?

b. Will You prolong ("draw, drag out") Your anger through all generations? (Ps 77:1-15)

c. Will You not revive ("refresh, restore, cause to live") us again, that Your people may rejoice in [You]?

- Show us Your unfailing love ("faithful love, kindness, covenant loyalty"), O LORD, and grant us Your salvation ("deliverance, rescue" - referring to deliverance from their troubles).

- I will listen to what God the LORD will say;

\* He promises ("will speak") peace to His people, His saints ("pious, devout, godly") - but let them not return to folly ("stupidity").

\* Surely His salvation is near those who fear Him, that His glory may dwell in our land. (Ps 25:12-15, 34:18, Ps 84:11, Jn 14:21)

**3. Love ("covenant loyalty/faithful love") and faithfulness ("truth") meet together; righteousness and peace kiss each other.** (Rom 5:1) - *God is faithful and never breaks His word. His covenant with Israel stands. Because He is faithful, His promises can be trusted. The result for us, is justification and peace.*

a. Faithfulness (or, "truth") springs ("grows") from the earth, and righteousness looks down from heaven. (Is 45:8, Rom 3:21-26, 8:1-4). *God's faithfulness is expressed in our salvation.*

b. The LORD will indeed give what is good, and our land will yield its harvest. (Gal 5:22-23).

c. Righteousness goes before Him and prepares the way for His steps. (Ps 89:14)