

When You Need God's Favor Again

Psalm 85

Background

Most likely post-exilic, but not certain.

Recalling the _____, v 1-3

God restored, v1

Because Israel _____, 2-3.

It is a serious thing to face the wrath and anger of God. It is a NT message to his church, Hebrews 12:28-29.

²⁸Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, ²⁹for our "God is a consuming fire."

And again, Ephesians 5:6,7.

⁶Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of such things God's wrath comes on those who are disobedient. ⁷Therefore do not be partners with them.

Prayer for the _____, 4-7.

Israel got back into the land and began to forget why it had been exiled, 4-5.

We have sinned again, 4, 5.

Israel repents and asks for God's blessing again, could God, would God forgive and bring enjoyment, 6-7.

Salvation is ultimately about _____, v 6.

It is about enjoying his _____, v 7.

Assurance is gained by reflecting upon the _____ and _____ of God, 8-13.

This is where anyone's assurance and confidence must be placed: not in circumstances, feelings, philosophy, psychology.

Listening to the promises of God, v 8

Peace, but not folly.

Salvation is near to those who fear, Salvation is about God's glory, v 9

Fearing God is a change of attitude, turning from folly, 8b.

Hope is always in God and his character, 10, 11.

KJV: ¹⁰Mercy and truth are met together; righteousness and peace have kissed *each other*.

NIV: ¹⁰Love and faithfulness meet together; righteousness and peace kiss each other.

Character reflected:

Mercy/Love

Always designates not just an attitude, but also the act that emerges from this attitude. It is an act that preserves or promotes life. It is intervention on behalf of someone suffering misfortune or distress. It is demonstration of friendship or piety.

Truth/faithfulness

The general Hebrew word for truth or truthfulness, and faith or faithfulness, is a derivative of the verb Aman whence the word Amen draws its origin. Aman in its simple active form signifies to nurse or nourish up; in the passive, to be firm and established, and hence steadfast

Righteousness

This root basically connotes conformity to an ethical or moral standard. This word carries underlying sense of certainty, dependability.

Peace

More than an absence of war, it means well-being, peace, welfare

This character of God is also to be reflected in man. These attributes of God are to be communicable.

Revival is about _____, confession, my sin!

Revival is about _____ on the character of the communicable attributes of God.

Final Encouragement, v 12-13.

Focus on the future when "his steps lead to us"

Who is God?	What has he said?	What has he done?	What does that mean to me?