

Psalm 80

1 To the chief Musician upon Shoshannimeduth, A Psalm of Asaph. Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, thou that leadest Joseph like a flock; thou that dwellest between the cherubims, shine forth. 2 Before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh stir up thy strength, and come and save us. 3 Turn us again, O God, and cause thy face to shine; and we shall be saved.

4 O LORD God of hosts, how long wilt thou be angry against the prayer of thy people? 5 Thou feedest them with the bread of tears; and givest them tears to drink in great measure. 6 Thou makest us a strife unto our neighbours: and our enemies laugh among themselves. 7 Turn us again, O God of hosts, and cause thy face to shine; and we shall be saved.

8 Thou hast brought a vine out of Egypt: thou hast cast out the heathen, and planted it. 9 Thou preparedst room before it, and didst cause it to take deep root, and it filled the land. 10 The hills were covered with the shadow of it, and the boughs thereof were like the goodly cedars. 11 She sent out her boughs unto the sea, and her branches unto the river. 12 Why hast thou then broken down her hedges, so that all they which pass by the way do pluck her? 13 The boar out of the wood doth waste it, and the wild beast of the field doth devour it.

14 Return, we beseech thee, O God of hosts: look down from heaven, and behold, and visit this vine; 15 And the vineyard which thy right hand hath planted, and the branch that thou madest strong for thyself. 16 It is burned with fire, it is cut down: they perish at the rebuke of thy countenance. 17 Let thy hand be upon the man of thy right hand, upon the son of man whom thou madest strong for thyself. 18 So will not we go back from thee: quicken us, and we will call upon thy name. 19 Turn us again, O LORD God of hosts, cause thy face to shine; and we shall be saved.

Introduction:

1. “To the chief Musician” – could be “Jeduthun” (see Ps. 77).
2. “upon Shoshannimeduth” – meaning “Upon the Lillies of the Testimony” – a reference to the spring festival. (Mentioned only once, here).
3. A Psalm of Asaph. – The composer.

Outline:

- A. Prayer for Deliverance (vv.1-3)
- B. The LORD’s Present Anger (vv.4-7)
- B.’ The LORD’s Past Mercy (vv.8-13)
- A.’ Prayer for Deliverance (vv.14-19)

Observations:

1. God is the Shepherd of Israel (Gen. 48:15; 49:23).
2. God is also the God of hosts (vv. 4, 7, 14, 19). (Dan. 4:35).
3. Israel is likened to a vine.
4. It is currently a withered fig tree but it someday (at the return of Christ) it will become a fruitful olive tree.
5. Christians can pray (v.14) – Visit this vine.
 - A. The LORD is my shepherd.
 - B. Ask God to “turn” us again to Himself. (The Christian life is one entire life of repentance from sin toward God). (v.3) (v.7) (v.19).
-Revival relies upon repentance.
 - C. Ask God to return to us. (v.14).
 - D. Appeal to God through the Lord Jesus Christ – (v.17) The Man of Thy Right Hand – The Son of Man... (Heb. 1:3; Matt. 26:64; Mk. 14:62).

Lesson: The Sovereign Saviour is the Shepherd of Israel. When we turn to Him, He will turn to us.