



What Could Have Been

Psalms 81



God's Call to Rejoice

☞ God is to be praised – Psa. 81:1-3

- 1st call: Israel was to sing and shout for joy – 81:1
- 2nd call: To temple singers and musicians to celebrate in the Lord – 81:2
- 3rd call: Trumpet the 7th month of feasts and worship – 81:3
- We are to continually praise God – Heb. 13:15

☞ This worship was to be given by God's command – 81:4-5

- Those who are saved can find many reasons for rejoicing! – 81:4
- These times of worship were God's desire since Israel's deliverance and establishment as a nation – 81:5
- We, like Israel, must come together and worship God – Heb. 10:24-25; Eph. 5:19-20

God's Call to Remember

Remember God as their deliverer – 81:6-7

- Remember that God gave them freedom from slavery – 81:6
- Remember that Israel called to God for deliverance – 81:7
- God calls on us to remember our deliverance – Gal. 3:13-14; 1 Pet. 1:17-18; Heb. 12:3-6

Remember God's condition of freedom – 81:8-10

- Remember that God alone was their Lord, God, and deliverer – 81:9-10a; Ex. 20:3-5; Deut. 6:4-6
- Instead of scathing rebuke for their lack of devotion, God promises them blessing... *what could be!* – 81:10b; Deut. 6:24-25
- God wants us to serve Him because of our deliverance – 2 Pet. 1:9

Remember the consequences of their disobedience – 81:11-12; Rom. 1:18-24

God's Call to Repent

- ☞ God laments Israel's unwillingness to listen and obey Him – 81:13-15
 - Israel's deliverance was no farther away than their humble repentance and submission – 81:14; Ex. 23:20-22
 - If Israel would obey, all who stood against God and Israel would be defeated – 81:15
- ☞ Deliverance is offered today for all who will repent and obey God!
 - Deliverance from the bondage of sin for the obedient – Rom. 6:16-18
 - Deliverance from chaos – Phil. 4:6-7
 - Deliverance from death – John 10:27-28

Conclusion

- ☞ Consider God's final words – 81:16 – “But I would feed you with the finest of the wheat, and with honey from the rock I would satisfy you.”
 - Salvation with great blessings was so close to Israel...if they would repent!
 - God's salvation is offered to all today who will turn from sin to God and obey His will!
- ☞ Great rejoicing, hope, and blessings await you in Christ.
- ☞ Will you come to Christ now?