

**PSALMS
BOOK THREE**

Psalm 81

For the director of music. According to gittith. Of Asaph.

1. Sing for joy ("aloud") to God our strength; shout aloud to the God of Jacob!

- a. Begin the music, strike the tambourine, play the melodious ("pleasant") harp and lyre ("a stringed instrument, a psaltery").
- b. Sound the ram's horn at the New Moon, and when the moon is full, on the day of our Feast;
- this is a decree ("statute") for Israel, an ordinance of the God of Jacob.
 - He established it has a statute for Joseph when he went out against Egypt, where we heard a language we did not understand. (*Where Israel heard a voice he had not known - God's*)
 - He says, "I removed the burden from their shoulders; their hands were set free from the basket. (*He set them free from servitude and hard labor - Ex 1:14, 3:7, Dt 26:5-11*)
 - In your distress you called and I rescued you,
 - * I answered you out of a thundercloud ("secret place of thunder");
 - * I tested you at the waters of Meribah.

Selah

2. Hear, O My people, and I will warn you - if you would but listen to Me, O Israel! (Ps 95:7)

- a. You shall have no foreign ("another") god among you: you shall not bow down to an alien God. (Ex 20:3, Lk 18:18-ff)
- b. I am the LORD your God, who brought you up out of Egypt. (Rom 12:1-2)
- Open wide your mouth and I will fill it. (e.g., Ps 37:4, Mtt 7:7,11)
 - But My people would not listen to Me; Israel would not submit to me. (Is 1:3)
 - * So I gave them over to their stubborn hearts,
 - * to follow their own devices. (e.g., Jer 7:24, Rom 1:18-32)
- c. If My people would but listen ("had listened") to Me, if Israel would follow My ways,
- how quickly would I subdue their enemies and turn My hand against their foes! (Jas 4:1-10)
 - Those who hate the LORD would cringe before Him, and their punishment would last forever. (Rom 6:23)
 - But you would be fed with the finest of wheat; with honey from the rock I would satisfy you."

***Remember where you came from and what God has done for you
In view of this continually offer yourself to Him.***

The problem with being a living sacrifice is that we keep crawling off of the altar. It is a daily walk!