

PRAYING PSALM 80

“Restore us, O God; Cause Your face to shine, and we shall be saved” (Proverbs 80:3).

This psalm is a prayer for the restoration of God’s favor. It was probably written after Israel was destroyed by Assyria. 1. A CRY TO THE SHEPHERD OF THE SHEEP (1-7). Restore us. How will you be angry against the prayer of Your people? Come and save us. Our enemies laugh. 2. A CRY TO THE HUSBAND OF THE VINE (8-16). Look down from Heaven and see, and visit this vine. Israel is the vine. (In this dispensation Christ is the vine and Christians are the branches). 3. A CRY FOR REVIVAL (17-19). Revive us, and we will call upon Your name. Restore us, and we shall be saved.

The vine is a symbol of God’s fellowship with His people. Jesus used the image in John 15 to describe this. Fruit bearing is maintained as you abide in fellowship with Christ. Fellowship is maintained through your prayer and obedience to the Holy Spirit within you. If you stop bearing fruit it means you aren’t remaining in fellowship with Christ. If your life is unmanageable, it might be because you are being pruned (cut back) for increased fruitfulness. To remain out of fellowship with Christ is to risk being cut off from His blessings. You may need revival to be restored to fellowship. Your Heavenly Father wants you to abide in love which is the fruit of the Holy Spirit. You can’t do that until you are ready to obey Him. When you ask God to revive you, you will be restored and used in the Kingdom of God.