

## PRAYING PSALM 81

“Make a joyful shout to the God of Jacob...” (Psalm 81:1).

Psalm 80 tells the early history of Israel and summons them to a feast, probably the Passover or Tabernacles. 1. A CALL TO PRAISE (1-10). Raise a song. Blow the trumpet. Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it. This is a call to praise God for what He will do in the future and what He has done in the past. 2. A CALL TO REPENTANCE (11-16). The people would not heed God's voice, so He gave them over to a stubborn heart. God was grieved over a people who would not listen to Him and walk in His ways. God would have fed them and given them honey from a rock if they would have repented.

When God's people are in an unrepentant state, they cut themselves off from God's blessings. Repentance is the answer to God's righteous discipline. When you realize your fellowship is broken because of sin, the only way to be restored and receive God's blessing is to repent. It is noteworthy that the people of this psalm fell from favor with God when they refused to praise Him. This led to backsliding and a need for repentance.