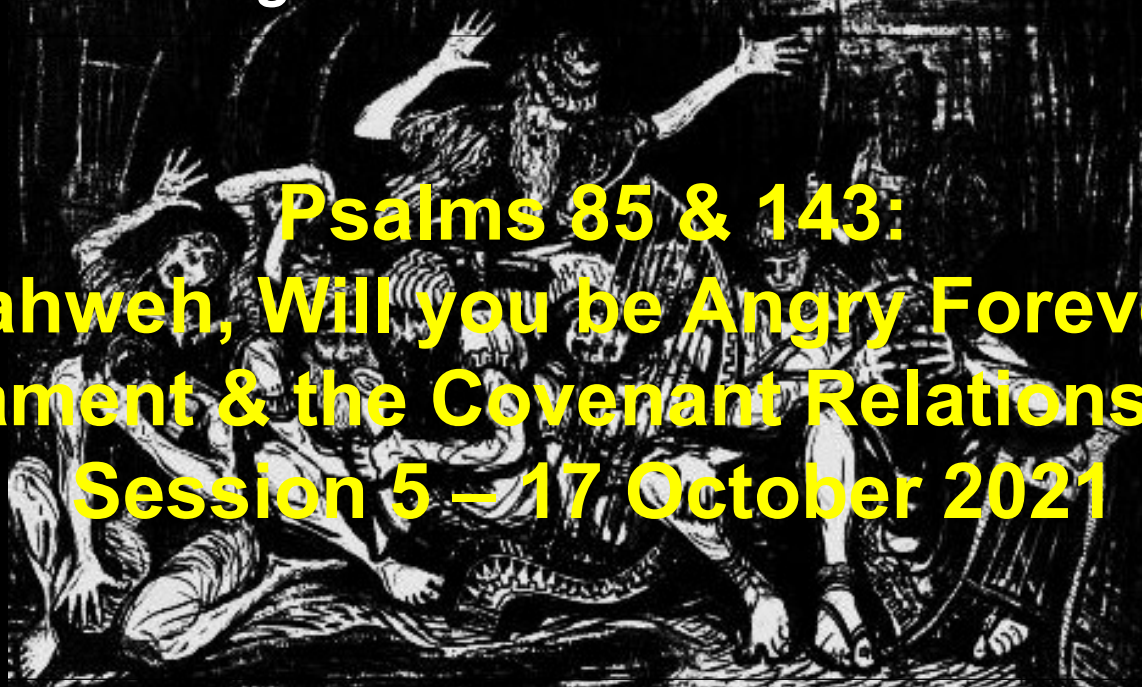


Lament Psalms

Asking God the Hard Questions



**Psalms 85 & 143:
“Yahweh, Will you be Angry Forever?”
(Lament & the Covenant Relationship)
Session 5 – 17 October 2021**

1st Baptist Church – Regina, SK L4L Fall 2021

Instructor: Kelvin Friebel

“By the Rivers of Babylon We Sat and Wept” (1938) by Moshe Rynecki

<https://rynecki.org/wp-content/themes/rynecki/images/npi1938nr32-e1418056288987.jpg>

Psalms 85 (KGF) Genre: **Communal Lament**

(NOTE: In Hebrew, the superscription is v. 1, thus English v. 1 = Heb v. 2, etc.)

For the choir director. A Psalm of the sons of Korah.

Confidence

1 You delighted, Yahweh, (in) **your land**;
 you **returned** (i.e., restored) the fortunes (or, "captivity") of Jacob.
 2 You lifted up (i.e., "forgave") the iniquity of **your people**;
 you covered **all** their sin. Selah.
 3 You withdrew **all** your fury;
you turned-away from the burning of your anger.

PAST

Petition

4 **Return** (i.e., "restore") us, God of **our salvation**,
and cease your indignation with us.

COMPLAINT

5 **Will** you be angry against us forever?
 (Will) you prolong your anger for generation after generation?
 6 **Will** you not yourself **turn** and bring us to life?

Commitment to PRAISE

and (thus) **your people** will rejoice in You.

Present

Petition

7 Show us, Yahweh, your **loving-loyalty**,
and **your salvation** may you **give** to us.

Confidence

8 Let me hear what God, Yahweh, will **speak**.
 for he will **speak** **peace** to His people,
 and (i.e., "that is") to **his loving-loyal-ones**.
 And (thus) they should not **turn-back** to folly.
 9 Surely near to the-ones-who-fear (or, "revere") him is **his salvation**.

FUTURE

For the dwelling of glory in **our land**:
 10 **Loving-loyalty** and faithfulness meet-together;
Righteousness and **peace** kiss (in greeting each other).
 11 Faithfulness, from **the land**, springs-forth;
 and **righteousness**, from the sky, looks down.
 12 Also, Yahweh **will give** good-things;
 and **our land** **will give** its produce.
 13 **Righteousness** will walk before him;
 and (i.e., "as") he will set his footsteps on the way.

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you turned-away from the burning of your anger.

Worship Leader

* Speaker:
3rd Party
+ Addressee:
Yahweh ("You")
> about the
people ("they")

Petition

4 **Return** (i.e., "restore") us, God of **our salvation**,
and cease your indignation with us.

Congregation

COMPLAINT

5 **Will** you be angry against us forever?
(Will) you prolong your anger for generation after generation?
6 **Will** you not yourself **turn** and bring us to life?

Commitment to PRAISE and (thus) **your people** will rejoice in You.

Petition

7 Show us, Yahweh, your **loving-loyalty**,
and **your salvation** may you **give** to us.

* Speaker:
1st Plural
(People)
+ Addressee:
Yahweh
("You")
> about the
people ("us")
[except v. 6b]

8 Let me hear what God, Yahweh, will **speak**.
for he will **speak peace** to His people,
and (i.e., "that is") to **his loving-loyal-ones**.
And (thus) they should not **turn-back** to folly.
9 Surely near to the-ones-who-fear (or, "revere") him is **his salvation**.

Worship Leader

v. 8-9a:
* Speaker:
Individual
"me"
> about Yahweh
("he")
> about People
("they")

Confidence

For the dwelling of glory in **our land**:
10 **Loving-loyalty** and faithfulness meet-together;
Righteousness and **peace** kiss (in greeting each other).
11 Faithfulness, from **the land**, springs-forth;
and **righteousness**, from the sky, looks down.
12 Also, Yahweh **will give** good-things;
and **our land will give** its produce.
13 **Righteousness** will walk before him;
and (i.e., "as") he will set his footsteps on the way.

Congregation

v. 9b-13"
* Speaker:
People ("us")
> about
Yahweh
("he")

Psalm 143 (KGF)

A psalm of David.

Genre: Individual Lament

PETITION

1 **Yahweh**, listen to my prayer;
give ear to my supplications;
in your **faithfulness**, answer me
--in your **righteousness**.

2 And do not enter into litigation
with **your servant**,
for no **living-being** can be **righteous**
before you.

PETITION + CONFIDENCE

7 Quickly, answer me, **Yahweh**;
my spirit is expiring.
do not hide your face from me,
and (thus) I become like those-going-down
(into) the Pit.

8 Make me hear, in the morning,
your **loving-loyalty**,
for in you I have trusted.

Make me know the way in which I should walk,
for to you I have lifted-up **my soul**.

9 Rescue me from my enemies, **Yahweh**,
(for) with you I have hidden myself.

PETITION + CONFIDENCE

10 Teach me to do your will,
for you are my God.

Your Spirit is good;
may you lead in/into a level **earth/land**.

11 For your name's sake, **Yahweh**,
may you **give me life**;
in your **righteousness**,
may you bring out **my soul**
from distress.

12 And in your **loving-loyalty**,
may you cut off my enemies,
and may you destroy
all those who distress **my soul**,

for I am **your servant**.

COMPLAINT "they"-complaint

3 **For** (my) enemy has persecuted **my soul**;
he has crushed **my life** to **the earth**;
he has made me dwell in dark-places,
like those long dead.

"I"-complaint

4 And **my spirit** has fainted within me;
in my inner-being, my heart is appalled.

CONFIDENCE

5 I have remembered the former days;
I have meditated on all your works;
on the deeds of **your hands**, I will muse.

6 I have stretched out **my hands** to you;
my soul, like parched **earth**, (thirsts) for you.
Selah

Psalm 143 -- Petitions

Petitions	vv. 1-6	vv. 7-9	vv. 10-12
1) Urgent Plea to Respond to the Prayer	1 --listen to my prayer --give ear to my supplications	7 -- Quickly, answer me, -- do not hide your face from me	
2) Do not bring charges against the psalmist	2 -- do not enter into litigation with your servant		
3) Give Direction		8 --Make me hear, in the morning, your loving-loyalty --Make me know the way in which I should walk	10 -- me to do your will -- may you lead in/into a level earth/land
4) Give Deliverance		9 --Rescue me from my enemies,	11 -- may you give me life; --may you bring my soul out from distress.
5) Deal with, by eliminating, the Enemies			12 --may you cut off my enemies, --may you destroy all those who distress my soul

Psalm 143 – Bases / Motivations for the Petitions

Basis for the Petitions			
<p>1) Character Qualities of Yahweh</p>	<p>1b --in your faithfulness -- in your righteousness</p> <p>2b --for no living-being can be righteous before you.</p>	<p>8a --your loving-loyalty</p>	<p>10b --Your Spirit is good (or, “your good Spirit”)</p> <p>11a --For your name’s sake 11b-- your righteousness, 12a-- in your loving-loyalty,</p>
<p>2) Past beneficial works of Yahweh</p>	<p>5 --I have remembered the former days; --I have meditated on all your works; --I will muse on the deeds of your hands</p>		
<p>3) Psalmist’s Dire Circumstances</p>	<p>3 --For (my) enemy has persecuted my soul; --he has crushed my life to the earth; --he has made me dwell in dark-places, like those long dead. 4 --my spirit has fainted within me; --in my inner-being, my heart is appalled</p>	<p>7a --my spirit is expiring. 7b --I become like those-going-down (into) the Pit.</p>	
<p>4) Psalmist’s (Covenant) Relationship with Yahweh</p>	<p>2a --your servant</p> <p>6a --I have stretched out my soul to you; 6b --my soul, like parched earth (thirsts) for you.</p>	<p>8a -- for in you I have trusted. 8b -- for to you I have lifted-up my soul. 9 --(for) with you I have hidden myself.</p>	<p>10a --for you are my God. 12b --for I am your servant.</p>