### Psalms

## Chapter 81

To the [music] director:  
  
[Set to the tune of the song called] The Wine Vats.  
  
A Psalm by Asaph.  
  
  
  
  
1Shout in joy to our helper, God;  
 Yes, call out before Jacob’s Lord.  
 2Sing and beat on your tambourines…  
 Make beautiful music on harps.  
 3Blow trumpets on all the New Moons…  
 On the holy days, blow your horns!  
  
4To IsraEl, He once gave these orders  
 (They were the decisions of Jacob’s God);  
 5As a witness, He sent them to JoSeph  
 After he had been taken to Egypt,  
 Where he heard a language that he didn’t understand:  
  
 6‘I removed the heavy loads from your backs,  
 And I freed your hands from serving as slaves  
 Who had to bear [heavy] loads.  
  
 7‘It was there that you first called upon Me,  
 And from their oppression, I saved you…  
 I heard you when you had to hide from their storms,  
 Then I tested you at the Waters of Dispute.  
  
 8‘So, listen to Me, O my people,  
 For, I’ll now testify.  
 Yes, O IsraEl… You should listen and hear Me!  
  
 9‘No new gods may you have,  
 Nor may you bow before others.  
 10For, I am Jehovah, your God…  
 The One who led you from Egypt.  
 So now, widen your mouths and I’ll fill them!  
  
 11‘But My people just wouldn’t listen…  
 IsraEl paid no attention!  
 12So I drove them away for the things that they did,  
 And for the bad they’d conceived in their hearts.  
  
 13‘If only My people had listened…  
 If IsraEl had followed My ways,  
 14They wouldn’t have been humbled by their enemies…  
 For, against their oppressors, I’d have stretched out My hand!’  
  
15But although God’s enemies lay before Him,  
 The time will arrive in this age,  
 16When you’ll be fed on the fatness of wheat,  
 And out of the rocks, you’ll suck honey!