

**Zephaniah 3:14–20**

**14** Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion;  
shout, O Israel!  
Rejoice and exult with all your heart,  
O daughter of Jerusalem!

**15** The Lord has taken away the judgments  
against you;  
he has cleared away your enemies.  
The King of Israel, the Lord, is in your  
midst;  
you shall never again fear evil.

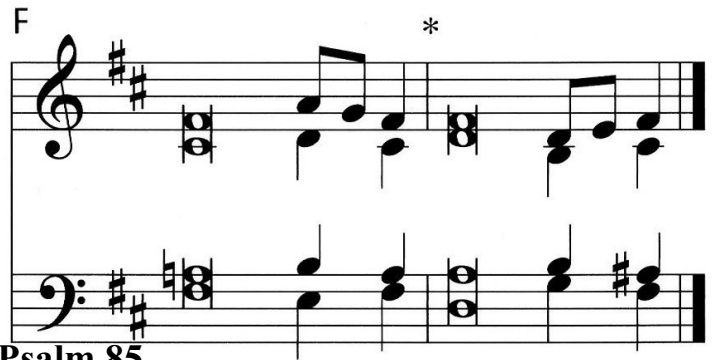
**16** On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:  
"Fear not, O Zion;  
let not your hands grow weak.

**17** The Lord your God is in your midst,  
a mighty one who will save;  
he will rejoice over you with gladness;  
he will quiet you by his love;  
he will exult over you with loud singing.

**18** I will gather those of you who mourn for  
the festival,  
so that you will no longer  
suffer reproach.

**19** Behold, at that time I will deal  
with all your oppressors.  
And I will save the lame  
and gather the outcast,  
and I will change their shame into praise  
and renown in all the earth.

**20** At that time I will bring you in,  
at the time when I  
gather you together;  
for I will make you renowned and praised  
among all the peoples of the earth,  
when I restore your fortunes  
before your eyes," says the Lord.

**Psalm 85**

**1** Lord, you were favorable | to your land;\*  
you restored the fortunes of | Jacob.

**2** You forgave the iniquity  
of your | people;\*  
you covered | all their sin.

**3** You withdrew | all your wrath;\*  
you turned from your hot | anger.

**4** Restore us again,  
O God of our sal- | vation,\*  
and put away your indignation |  
toward us!

**5** Will you be angry with us for- | ever?\*

Will you prolong your anger  
to all gener- | ations?

**6** Will you not revive | us again,\*  
that your people may  
re- | joice in you?

**7** Show us your steadfast love, | O Lord,\*  
and grant us your sal- | vation.

**8** Let me hear what God the | Lord  
will speak,\*  
for he will speak peace  
to his people, to his saints;  
but let them not turn back to | folly.

**9** Surely his salvation is near  
to those who | fear him,\*  
that glory may dwell | in our land.

**10** Steadfast love and faith- | fulness meet;\*  
righteousness and peace kiss  
each | other.

**11** Faithfulness springs up |  
from the ground,\*  
and righteousness looks down |  
from the sky.

**12** Yes, the Lord will give | what is good,\*  
and our land will yield its | increase.

**13** Righteousness will go be- | fore him\*  
and make his foot- | steps a way.

### Philippians 4:4–7

<sup>4</sup>Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. <sup>5</sup>Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; <sup>6</sup>do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup>And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

### Luke 7:18–28

<sup>18</sup>The disciples of John reported all these things to him. And John, <sup>19</sup>calling two of his disciples to him, sent them to the Lord, saying, "Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?" <sup>20</sup>And when the men had come to him, they said, "John the Baptist has sent us to you, saying, 'Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?'" <sup>21</sup>In that hour he healed many people of diseases and plagues and evil spirits, and on many who were blind he bestowed sight. <sup>22</sup>And he answered them, "Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the poor have good news preached to them. <sup>23</sup>And blessed is the one who is not offended by me."

<sup>24</sup>When John's messengers had gone, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? <sup>25</sup>What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who are dressed in splendid clothing and live in luxury are in kings' courts. <sup>26</sup>What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. <sup>27</sup>This is he of whom it is written, "Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.'

<sup>28</sup>I tell you, among those born of women none is greater than John. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he."