

(PSALMS OF DELIVERANCE)

Lesson V.

Psalms 85 and 126—Memory Verses, Psalm 126

October 29, 1899

1 LORD, thou hast been favourable unto thy land: thou hast brought back the captivity of Ja'cob.

2. Thou hast forgiven the iniquity of thy people, thou hast covered all their sin. Selah.

3 Thou hast taken away all thy wrath: thou hast turned *thyself* from the fierceness of thine anger.

4 Turn us, O God of our salvation, and cause thine anger toward us to cease.

5 Wilt thou be angry with us for ever? wilt thou draw out thine anger to all generations?

6 Wilt thou not revive us again: that thy people may rejoice in thee?

7 Shew us thy mercy, O LORD, and grant us thy salvation.

8 I will hear what God the LORD will speak: for he will speak peace unto his people, and to his saints: but let them not turn again to folly.

9 Surely his salvation is nigh them that fear him: that glory may dwell in our land.

10 Mercy and truth are met together;

righteousness and peace have kissed *each other*.

11 Truth shall spring out of the earth; and righteousness shall look down from heaven.

12 Yea, the LORD shall give *that which is good*; and our land shall yield her increase.

13 Righteousness shall go before him; and shall set us in the way of his steps.

Ps. 126: 1 When the LORD turned again the captivity of Zi'on, we were like them that dream.

2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with singing: then said they among the heathen, The LORD hath done great things for them.

3 The LORD hath done great things for us; *whereof we are glad*.

4 Turn again our captivity, O LORD, as the streams in the south.

5 They that sow in tears shall reap in joy.

6 He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves *with him*.

THE LESSON RETOLD

See Lesson 1

When God allowed his people to come back from heathen Babylon to their own city of Jerusalem, they were so glad that they laughed and shouted and sang.

In Babylon they had been too unhappy to sing. They were slaves, and though the heathen sometimes said, when they saw the people crying, "Sing us one of the songs of Zion," they always answered, "We cannot

sing the Lord's songs in a strange land. Now they were safe home at last, and because they were so happy they could not help singing.

The psalm in to-day's lesson was sung by all the people in the Temple. While they sang the bands played, and soon everybody was shouting praises and thanks to God for all His goodness.

There was a prayer in the song too. It was that God would keep his people from grieving Him any more, and that He would always stay near them to give them peaceful, happy homes and true hearts.

There was another hymn, too, all about coming home. The chorus was, "The Lord hath done great things for us; whereof we are glad." Oh, how heartily the people sang it. They had been slaves and now were free once more.

God was pleased to hear the people singing these old psalms so long ago, and His people often sing them now, because there are no other hymns more beautiful, or so good to learn.

