

## Sing a Psalm or Two

Israel lets its hair down.

1. Two important ideas: *Hesed*: Fidelity to an alliance (Pss 118:1, 136:1); and awareness that things have gone wrong; indicative of profound faith. *Lament*: Come to terms with the emotion.
2. "How Long, O Lord?"

6:2-6 → 9-11; 13; 79:5;

89:47 God is in charge.

94: 22-23

3. Other laments: 21; 26; 28:35; 44: The mystery of suffering. 54: 70: (=40:14-17) 77; 85:

**88: utter desolation, no "turning-point", but God is addressed in verses 2, 10, 14, 15**

109; 130; 137:

What kind of God? A question that has yet to die.

Psalm 23: a possible answer