LOVE, TRUTH AND FAITHFULNESS

In Psalm 85:10-12 we read "Steadfast love and truth and faithfulness meet together; Righteousness and peace kiss each other. Truth springs from the earth, And righteousness looks down from heaven. Indeed, the Lord will give what is good...."

At the beginning of this Psalm it says that God has forgiven the wickedness of His people. Because we are forgiven, we can expect renewed blessing as the Lord shows His unfailing love. How can we understand forgiveness? The above passage shows it is a place where God's love, faithfulness and righteousness unite to bring peace. Because God loves us, He forgives and because He is faithful to His covenant promises, He forgives. Through His righteousness, He pays the price in Christ that forgiveness requires.

Where these three qualities unite in forgiveness, man is restored to that state of peace (well-being) that Adam and Eve first knew. By viewing forgiveness as an expression of God's character and attitude toward man, we can be sure that "indeed the Lord will give what is good." Knowing we are forgiven, we can respond to God with gratitude, commitment and trust.