

PSALM 121 – My Help Comes from the Lord! A Psalm to Our Keeper and Protector

9/11/21 Sat. Morn Prayer - P. Twente, www.ptwente.com 714 425-9221; ptwente@gmail.com

ROCK OF AGES – Augustus Toplady (1740-1778), sung by Ernie Ford (2:39)

1. *Rock of Ages, cleft for me. Let me hide myself in Thee; Let the water and the blood*

From Thy wounded side which flowed, Be of sin the double cure; Save from wrath and make me pure.

2. *Could my tears forever flow, Could my zeal no languor know, These for sin could not atone; Thou must save, and Thou alone. In my hand no price I bring; Simply to Thy cross I cling*

3. *While I draw this fleeting breath When my eyes shall close in death. When I rise to worlds unknown and behold Thee on Thy Throne. Rock of Ages, cleft for me, Let me hide myself in Thee. Let me hide myself in Thee.*

Keeps, Keeper, Preserve - *shâmar, shaw-mar'* (6X) To *hedge* about (as with thorns), that is, *guard*; generally, to *protect, attend to*, etc.: - beware, be circumspect, take heed (to self), keep (-er, self), mark, look narrowly, observe, preserve, regard, reserve, save (self), sure, (that lay) wait (for), watch (-man).

My Help Comes from the Lord

Psa 121:1 A Song of Ascents. I will lift up my eyes to the hills—From whence comes my help?

- Jerusalem is situated in what they call the hills of Jerusalem. The Jews always say, let's go up to Jerusalem. You never go down to Jerusalem. You may be living in the north part of the country, but you wouldn't say, let's go down to Jerusalem. You'd say, let's go up to Jerusalem. No matter what direction you're coming from, your final last lap into Jerusalem is uphill. Whether you're coming from the coastal area, whether you're coming from Ephraim, whether you're coming from the south or, of course, from the area of the Jordan valley, it's always up to Jerusalem.
- There in the Jerusalem hills, when the pilgrims, many of them after long journeys by ship, by camel, by donkey, by walking, finally coming into view of the hills of Jerusalem, the hearts begin to beat faster. "I will lift up my eyes to the hills." The excitement of soon being standing within the city of Jerusalem. "From whence comes my help?" is a question. He's not declaring surely that "my help comes from the hills." The hills don't help me.

Psa 121:2 My help comes from the LORD, Who made heaven and earth.

- Again, the vast importance in believing in a Creator. Seeing God in creation. It makes such a huge difference in the whole way that you look at life, that you look at circumstances in life. Whether or not life has meaning and purpose or life is just a mistake and a series of accidents. It all depends on whether or not you believe in a Creator and you believe in creation. We feel sorry for those people who have been hoodwinked into believing that we have come into existence as the result of billions of years of "fortuitous occurrences of accidental circumstances" which is their phrase.
- I am here because God has created me in His image and after His likeness. He has created me for the purpose that I might know Him and fellowship with Him. He has a plan for my life. He has a purpose for my life. There's a reason for my existence. It's a divine reason. It is that I might spend my eternity with God in the glories of His eternal kingdom. Thus, I live with purpose, and I live my life with meaning.
- But if you don't believe in the Creator, then life is just here today, gone tomorrow and let's eat, drink, and be merry for tomorrow we die. There is no meaning for life. There is no purpose for life, no purpose for your existence. It makes a big difference.

- “My help comes from the Lord, Who made the heavens and the earth.” Surely if God is great enough to make the heavens and the earth, He’s great enough to take care of my little problems.

Psa 121:3 He will not allow your foot to be moved; He who keeps you will not slumber.

- Coming up the path from Jericho was a pretty tough path . You have a very deep valley that you are coming up sort of on the upper side of that valley . A narrow path and it’s rocky all the way. It’s not good footing, very easy to slip. But “my help comes from the Lord, and ***He will not allow your foot to be moved; He who keeps you will not slumber.***

Psa 121:4 Behold, He who keeps Israel Shall neither slumber nor sleep.

- God is always there when I need Him. Anytime I call Him, He’s available. He never slumbers. He never sleeps!
- Consider when Elijah was having that contest with the prophets of Baal. They were to build their altars and they were to pray to their God and whichever God answered by fire, let Him be acknowledged as the true God. How that the prophets of Baal built their altar. They put their sacrifice on and then they started to pray to Baal to send the fire to consume their sacrifice. They got into the frenzy, beginning to cut themselves and throw themselves on the altar. They were going through all kinds of these kind of actions trying to provoke their god to activity in their behalf. Finally, Elijah just sort of having a little fun with them said, Fellows, I’ll bet your god’s asleep. You need to cry a little louder. He was just sort of egging them on to put on a real show.
- ***Behold, He who keeps Israel Shall neither slumber nor sleep.*** When they were through with their show and there was no fire, Elijah without a lot of fanfare and a lot of emotion or anything else said, Lord, I know You can do it but not for my sake but for their sake that they might know that You’re God, go ahead. Of course, before that he had had them pour water all over the thing until it was wet and soggy. Then the fire of God came and consumed the sacrifice, the wood and even the stones that they had used to make the altar with.

Psa 121:5 The LORD is your keeper; The LORD is your shade at your right hand.

- That is a very arid area and the dangers of traveling where the sun by day, sunstroke, or dehydration. In the desert there is always the danger of dehydration. So, “*the Lord is your keeper: He is your shade at your right hand.*” The interesting thing, the right side was the side that you were most vulnerable on because you always held your shield with your left hand. Thus, your left side was pretty well protected by the shield, but the right side of the fighter was exposed. He will be your shield on your right side. He’ll be the protection on the right side, that side that is most vulnerable.

Psa 121:6 The sun shall not strike you by day, Nor the moon by night.

- There was a feeling that sleeping in the moonlight had dangers. I don’t know from a scientific standpoint if that has proven to be factual or not. I know that up until a few years ago there were still many who felt that sleeping under the full moon could affect a person. In fact, the word “lunatic” comes from the Latin word “*luna*” which is moon. So, lunacy or lunatic comes from the idea that sleeping under a full moon can affect a person mentally. During full moon, those who have mental problems have manifestations of those problems more under a full moon.

Psa 121:7 The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; He shall preserve your soul.

- That’s a great promise! *The Lord shall preserve you from all evil:*
- *He shall preserve your soul, your mind.* He is talking about the lunacy and your shield by night. The moon will not smite you by night . The Lord *will preserve your soul.*

Psa 121:8 The LORD shall preserve your going out and your coming in From this time forth, and even forevermore.

- When traveling to Jerusalem for these feasts, you are going to be traveling through the desert areas. You're going to be exposed to the elements; the sun, the heat of the sun, the moon and the slippery pathways but God will preserve you. God will keep you. He will watch over you. He won't slumber. He won't sleep on the job!

HE IS ABLE! – Marantha Singers (3:12)

He is able, more than able To accomplish what concerns me today.

He is able, more than able To handle anything that comes my way.

He is able, more than able To do much more than I could ever dream,

He is able, more than able To make me what He wants me to be. (2x)

He is able, more than able To do much more than I could ever dream,

He is able, more than able To make me what He wants me to be.

PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH/PERSECUTED CHURCH; SCHOOLS; POLICE OFFICERS/MILITARY; ISRAEL:

PRAY FOR OUR NATION'S LEADERS: PRAY FOR CALIFORNIA: PRAY FOR WORLD LEADERS: - Pray for World Leaders, especially their salvation!

