

## LESSONS FROM PSALMS ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-ONE

Scripture: Psalms 121:1-8

Ray O. Brooks

### Introduction:

- A. It seems that Psalm 121 is an extension of Psalm 120.
  - 1. The writer was for peace, but others were for war.
  - 2. As the writer saw the war clouds gathering, he lifted his eyes to the hills surrounding Jerusalem.
  - 3. As he did, he remembered how the hills had been corrupted by the groves and alters built for the worship of idol gods.
- B. Then he asked himself, "From whence cometh my help?"
  - 1. The hills are not high enough to be my help.
  - 2. They are not strong enough to be my help.
  - 3. The hills don't know enough to be my help.
- C. He then answered his own question -- "My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth."
- D. Let us draw some practical lessons from this Psalm that will help us all.

### I. LEARN THAT MAN IS IN NEED OF HELP.

- A. Man in his natural condition is sinful and lost and on his road to hell.
  - 1. All have sinned and come short of the glory of God.
  - 2. There are none righteous, no not one
  - 3. He that believeth not on the Son is condemned already
- B. All are helpless to help themselves.
  - 1. Isaiah said, "Our righteousnesses are as filthy rags .. "
  - 2. Paul wrote: "not by works of righteousness which we have done ... "
  - 3. Paul also said that salvation was "not of works, lest any man should boast."
- C. God's own saved people still in these bodies of flesh and blood need help to survive and serve Him acceptably.
  - 1. Paul well described our condition in saying, "I can of mine ownself do nothing."
  - 2. Romans 7:15-24 is a commentary on every saved person's life.

### II. LEARN THAT THERE ARE TWO SOURCES OF HELP TO WHICH MAN LOOKS.

- A. v. 1 The hills which ~ symbolize created things.
  - 1. The gods of Amism are all gods of nature... sun, moon, stars, trees, mountains and etc.
  - 2. The Oriental religions worship created things and dead ancestors.
  - 3. These all build alters to gods that can not help.
- B. v.2 The Creator, Himself. "My help comes from the Lord who made heaven and earth."
- C. Why look to the hills when the God who made the hills is ready and able to help all who call on Him.
  - 1. Why? Those who build gods can boast in their own work.
  - 2. Those who reject God and dwell in the camp of evolution can say, "I made myself ... I help myself."

### III. LEARN THAT THOSE WHO CHOOSE TO LOOK TO THE LORD FOR HELP WILL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED.

- A. Those who look to the gods of human design shall be disappointed.
  - 1. Now in this life.
  - 2. And for eternity
- B. Those who call upon the Lord for help shall never be disappointed.
  - 1. Because our Lord will not suffer our feet to be moved. v.3
    - a. We stand on the firm Foundation, The Rock of our salvation -- Jesus Christ.
    - b. We are kept by the power of God. I Peter 1:5
  - 2. Because the Lord is ever awake to our needs. vs.3, 4
  - 3. Because the Lord is our Keeper, our Shade, our Protector day and night. vs. 5, 6
  - 4. Because the Lord shall preserve us from all evil and He will preserve our soul. v.7
  - 5. Because the Lord shall preserve my going out and my coming in and He shall do it forever. v.8
- C. God's Word promises -- Whosoever calleth upon the Name of the Lord SHALL be saved.
  - 1. David said, that the Lord inclined His ear unto me and heard my cry -- He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings. And He hath put a new song in my mouth, even praises unto God.
  - 2. When I called on God to save me, He heard and saved me.

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D. Paul first said, "I can of mine own self do nothing;" BUT then he said, "I can do all things through Christ who strengtheneth me."