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Psalm 121

(2019)

Bible House of Grace contains an easy to read New and Old Testament commentary full of spiritual treasures and pearls, complete with an insightful resource guide illuminating God's love and grace.



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Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man, as to such I neither claim perfect knowledge or perfect understanding.

Psalm 121.

Topics.

- My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.
- He who keeps Israel will not let your foot be moved; He will not sleep.
- A warning to all earth-dwellers.

FOR INFORMATION: concerning people, places and the meaning of words see the title: "Map Locations and People of the Bible," and the title: "Bible Dictionary" on Website Menu.

INTRODUCTION

Psalms are songs and prayers offered to God by the nation Israel, they cover the range of human emotion, expressing praise, faith, victory, sorrow, despair, depression, frustration and the troubled heart of a mourner. They contrast the righteous with the wicked, and include the wisdom and the treasure of God's word. Psalms were written at the beginning of the 15th century BC and probably collected in their final form in the 3rd century.

BOOK FIVE (PSALM 107-150)

PSALM 121:1-2

A Song of Ascents.

1

My Help comes from the LORD, who Made Heaven and Earth.

- **Psalm 121:1-2:** I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come? ²My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.

The word ascents, means a climactic progression or journey to a higher place (a thought arising). The writer is fully aware that his help comes from the invisible, immortal, Almighty Holy God the creator of all things and source of all life.

PSALM 121:3-8

He who Keeps Israel will Not let Your Foot be Moved.

- **Psalm 121:3-8:** He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber. ⁴Behold, he who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep. ⁵The LORD is your keeper; the LORD is your shade on your right hand. ⁶The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night. ⁷The LORD will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life. ⁸The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forevermore.

The expression, "the sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night," carries the idea that during both the day and the night no harm or sorrow of any sort would come upon the people of Israel. The focus of the writer has now shifted from himself to the nation of Israel. It is most likely that the Psalmist is proclaiming this Psalm at a time when Israel was being faithful to the LORD since the words of these verses would have been perfectly true for all generations of Israel had they remained faithful to God. This is because Israel at Mount Sinai and at the banks of the River Jordan entered into a Covenant with God spoken of in the following verses:

- Moses took the Book of the Covenant and read it in the hearing of the people. And they said, "All that the LORD has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient." ⁸And Moses took the blood and threw it on the people and said, "Behold the blood of the covenant that the LORD has made with you in accordance with all these words." (Exod. 24:7-8).

Moses spoke the words of the covenant again to all the people of Israel prior to the new generation crossing the River Jordan and entering the land of Canaan. (Deut. 29:10-15). The only time Israel would ever suffer troubles and grief in any way would be if they acted corruptly before the LORD. This is because the covenant contained both blessings and curses. Providing Israel did what was right before the LORD the covenant promised the people of Israel that:

- They would be God's treasured possession and be to Him a kingdom of priests and a holy nation (Exodus 19:5-8).
- God would prosper their health, their land, their homes, their farms, their livestock and all they put their hand to do and make them the head of all nations and not the tail.

But if Israel broke the covenant and turned to other gods to worship them the covenant promised the people of Israel that:

- God would bring all sorts of sicknesses and plaques upon them and their cities and their livestock and lay waste their land.
- God would bring ruin to their homes, their crops, their farms and all they put their hand to and had established and they would become the tail of all nations and not the head.

This means that if Israel obeyed the covenant and remained faithful to God, He would bless their health and materialistically bless them in every other way possible. No enemy would ever defeat them and everything they did would abundantly prosper. (The blessing and curses are in Deut. 28).

A warning to all earth-dwellers: the fact God turned Israel's fruitful land into barren waste because of their wickedness should be a warning to all earth dwellers. It is a principal of God that the further mankind denies His existence and His ways the further He removes His hand of blessing and the more the earth and those who dwell upon it suffer. Today our schools teach our children evolution as a scientific truth and it denies the existence of God. Added to this, wars, rape, violence, murders and theft is common today, young teenage girls are sold as sex slaves amongst most nations world-wide and drugs are globally rampant. When mankind denies their creator and turns from His ways to do their own thing all creation and every living thing under the sun suffers.

As the founder of Bible House of Grace, I would like to thank the many Christian scholars, commentators and theologians who have gone before me, and the many today, who have freely made available their works to enhance the knowledge of the Bible to all people worldwide. It is only with the help of these faithful writers that much of Bible House of Grace exists as it does today.