



CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH
NINILCHIK

WEDNESDAY PRAYER MEETING

Mid-Week Devotional

SERIES:

“Christ in the Psalms”

June 8th, 2022

“The Sixth Song of Ascent”

Psalm 125

THE SONGS OF DEGREES AS A WHOLE

This little psalter within the psalter consists of fifteen brief songs. Why they are grouped together and what is meant by their generic name it would be hard to tell. The conjectures are very many, but they are mere suppositions. Out of them all the conjecture by Dr. Jebb best commends itself to my own mind, though it would be quite consistent with this suggestion to believe that the series of songs are arranged by David became the Pilgrim Psalms of after ages, and were chanted by the Lord's people as they went up to the temple. They are "Songs of the Goings Up;" so some read the word. Those who delight to spiritualize everything find here Ascents of the Soul, or language fitted to describe the rising of the heart from the deepest grief to the highest delight....

—C.H.S.

PSALM 125

TITLE. —*A Song of degrees.* Another step is taken in the ascent, another station in the pilgrimage is reached: certainly a rise in the sense is here perceptible, since full assurance concerning years to come is a higher form of faith than the ascription of former escapes to the Lord. Faith has praised Jehovah for past deliverances, and here she rises to a confident joy in the present and future safety of believers. She asserts that they shall for ever be secure who trust themselves with the Lord. We can imagine the pilgrims chanting this song when perambulating the city walls.

We do not assert that David wrote this psalm, but we have as much ground for doing so as others have for declaring that it was written after the captivity. It would seem probable that all the Pilgrim Psalms were composed, or, at least, compiled by the same writer, and as some of them are certainly by David, there is no conclusive reason for taking away the rest from him.

DIVISION. —First we have *a song* of holy confidence (1, 2); then *a promise*, 3; followed by *a prayer*, 4; and *a note of warning*.

The Treasury of David

Charles Haddon Spurgeon (1834-1892)

VOLUME VII, PASSMORE & ALABASTER EDITION

Devotional Thoughts from Psalm 125

REFLECTION. As the Land of Promise is Christ and His gospel, so also is Mount Zion, wherein Jehovah God graciously dwells, just as He delighted to abide eternally in the Lord Jesus Messiah (v1). Like the mountains surrounding Jerusalem, the Lord Jesus was protected on all sides until He accomplished His atoning mission (v2). The god of this world, on his strongest day, could not thwart God's Messiah from doing good, neither tempt Him to do wrong (v3). For this could only be truly true of the Lord Jesus Christ, since the heart

in fallen man “*is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick*” (v4; Jer 17:9). The only peace that may be upon Israel is that the Prince of peace be led away with evildoers and be crucified on Calvary’s Tree (v5). Hallelujah! What a Savior!

APPLICATION. When we trust in the Lord Jesus Christ, we are as immovable as our Rock, Christ Jesus Himself (v1). The truth of Christ’s gospel eternally surrounds us (v2). Though we may suffer trial, tribulation, and a cacophony of calamitous circumstance, we are as eternally secure in Christ Jesus as He is forever holy and righteous (v3). Since we’ve been given a new heart and new spirit when saved by God’s grace in Christ, the Christian believer is upright in heart, and God works all things together for good (v4; Ezek 36:26; Rom 8:28-29). There is a judgment coming; therefore, we must have an urgency to bring the gospel of peace so that peace may reign in all of Israel (v5).

Devotional Challenge from Psalm 125

REFLECT upon the mountains mentioned in the second verse. The Hebrew word for mountain, *הר* (*har*), is used 545 times in 484 verses of Old Testament Scripture. Why do you suppose the psalmist used mountains to describe God’s protection and omnipresence?

READ HEBREWS 13:5. How does this verse relate to the Lord Jesus surrounding His people? How does Psalm 125:2 and Hebrews 13:5 help you to trust the Lord Jesus more thoroughly and love Him more deeply?

RESPOND to the second verse of Psalm 125 with this devotional challenge: consider the verses of the Bible that speak of mountains (use whatever resources you like to find them). How do these “mountain verses” help you to understand the nature and character of God? How do these “mountain verses” help you to understand the nature and character of Christ Jesus and His gospel? How do these “mountain verses” help you to trust Christ Jesus more firmly and love Him more deeply? Prepare to testify next week.

What to Pray for This Week:

1. May the blessed truth of Your Word minister to us as we pray.
2. May our prayers begin sounding like those prayed in Scripture because You're conforming our lives to Christ.
3. May our focus in prayer be upon You, and not for the ears of man.
4. Pour out Your Spirit upon Christ's church, and upon the world.
5. Purify Your children, and unite us to worship You in Christ, with one heart, one mind and one accord.
6. Raise up godly ministers unto Your harvest, and bless those who are already laboring in Your field.
7. Be merciful unto us by bringing saving faith to our unsaved family, friends, neighbors, the village of Ninilchik, and all the residents of the Kenai Peninsula.
8. Remove from us all pride, haughtiness and arrogance, and make us ever watchful against the flesh and every temptation from the enemy.
9. Humble us as we commune with You in prayer, and keep us from lip-service, from deedless word religion and heartless works religion.
10. Teach us to abide in Christ each time we pray; that our hearts may be knit to His so we may glorify You.

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