

The Trust Of The Worshipper

Psalm 121

Sunday September 19th 2010 Morning Service

Alwyn Barry

Introduction

Question: "Do you trust me?"

Psalm 121 – about trust – look to God, He says "Do you trust me?"

Coming to worship and prayer

Can come with worries & distressed

BUT if we see who He is, if we understand His Sovereign rule;

... what a difference that should make!

e.g. 2 Kings 6:15-17 Elisha's servant on walls of Dothan looking at Aramite army

Need to examine our hearts ... do we have a small view of God?

2nd commandment – no idols ... have we made an idol of God?

Realise afresh that our God is Great!

Jer 10:6-7 "No-one is like you, O Lord; You are great and your name is mighty in

power. Who should not revere you, O King of the nations? This is your due."

1. Real Danger (v1)

Traveller to Jerusalem ... "I lift my eyes to the hills" ... what were they thinking?

Past generations ... looked at mountains with great fear! ... danger

What would these travellers see? ...

Danger from enemies – Ammonites, Moabites, Edomites ... people of the hills

v1 is not about comfort ... it's about huge fears ... a danger that was real, all around them

Can be our situation ... full of worries - can seem surrounded

Big question: Where does my help come from? Who will I turn to?

This is a Psalm that is so relevant ... it's for us

2. Trust in His Person (v2a) *"My help comes from the Lord"*

Big statement!

LORD ... 'Jehovah', 'Yahweh', the given name of God!

Exodus 3:13-15 Moses, burning bush

"I AM WHO I AM" ... "I AM has sent me to you" (Ex 3:14)

Covenant name of God ... "I will be your God"

See the immensity of this statement "My help comes from the Lord":

God with us; God eternally unchanging; God of the covenant

Surrounded by mountains? Overwhelmed by trouble?

Need to trust in His Person ... He is Emmanuel, God with us!

3. Trust in His Power (v2b) *"The maker of heaven and earth"*

He is the Maker of Heaven and Earth! ... and that gives us wonderful assurance

Not only is He with us ... He understands us & has the power & authority to act!

- What is there that is a problem for God?
- What is there that He doesn't fully understand?
- What is there that God cannot rule over and reign over?

1 Kings 20 ... King of Aram came against Samaria v23; v28

Need to learn to trust the maker!

Is 40:27-31

4. Trust in His protection (v3-4)

6 times in v3-8 same word is used in Hebrew ... "keep" (translated "watch" in NIV)

Vital to understand ... we have a God who "keeps"

- not distant, not far away ... with us, keeping us, always there to help us

We don't have a God who needs to take a break, who wanders off, who is unconcerned!

Can seem like God is far off: Disciples on Sea of Galilee ... overnight, storm (Jn 6)

Jesus came, walking on the waves they feared so much!

5. Trust in His Provision (v5-6)

Speaks in v6 of the Sun and moon harming you - more than just natural force to them
Sun and Moon linked to gods of the nations – worshipped by those in the hills!

How often do we feel totally defeated by our circumstances, by powers that seem big?
Seem overwhelming ... too big for God!

What does God say? ... v5b “The Lord is your shade at your right hand”
→ right hand is the sword hand; right hand is what you fight with

He is the one who, as we stand for Him, gives you the strength to fight!

Ex 15:2

6. Trust in His Perseverance (v7-8)

There's a journey in the Psalm ... journey from fear to trust;
from trusting in little steps (v3-4) to trusting Him in life: “He will watch over your life”

True worship is the worship of lives given over to His control, trusting in Him for all
not a 'small god', only able to deal with small things, but God who rules over everything

Need to worship God as Paul did: Rom 8:31-32;38-39

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