

Psalm 121

Endearing Sojourner

March 5, 2023

Psalm 121

Assurance of God's Protection A Song of Ascents.

1 I lift up my eyes to the hills—
from where will my help come?
2 My help comes from the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.

3 He will not let your foot be moved;
he who keeps you will not slumber.
4 He who keeps Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.

5 The Lord is your keeper;
the Lord is your shade at your right hand.
6 The sun shall not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.

7 The Lord will keep you from all evil;
he will keep your life.
8 The Lord will keep
your going out and your coming in
from this time on and for evermore.

When have you observed a child take blind risks out of love for adventure?

Concern
(Psalm 121:1-2)

Interpretations?

1. Pagan Shrine Disappointment
2. Soldier's Psalm
3. Endearing Sojourner

Spiritual or physical journey?
(Psalm 121:3)

Travelers Advisories:

Certainty in the helpful watch of God.
(Psalm 121:4)

The use of shade.
(Psalm 121 v 5-6)

Promise to refresh our
soul and protect our
minds from evil.
(Psalm 121 v 7-8)

"The only thing to
do is hold the
spectacular in one
hand and the messy
reality in the other
hand and praise
[God] anyway."
_N. T. Wright

Where may God be
challenging you to have a
sense of childlike faith, take
a risk, and trust in his
helpful watch?

Matthew 7: 24-27 Hearers and Doers

24 'Everyone then who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock. 25 The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on rock. 26 And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not act on them will be like a foolish man who built his house on sand. 27 The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell—and great was its fall!

"Scripture alternates between hair-raising risks and assurances of impregnable security. And when we look at the lives of great followers of God, we see this combination of breath-taking risks with an almost brazen confidence of being safe in God's hands... None of these actions make sense unless the actors all understood 'from whence' came their help—unless they understood that they were 'in the watch-care of a great big God.'" _John Ortberg

Resources: *Love Beyond Reason* by John Ortberg, *Evil And The Justice of God* by N. T. Wright

Looking to Connect?: One of the Narrate staff would love to connect over lunch or coffee. To schedule a time please email info@narratechurch.org and we will get back to you within the week.

Therapist or Spiritual Director?: Email info@narratechurch.org and we will get you the contact of the therapists and directors we recommend.