



Sunday, August 8, 2021

Pastor Don Denyes

## **Intro to Psalm 121**

Psalm 121 has been a great comfort to many Christians throughout the centuries. It assumes the kinds of trials and tribulations that are common to our experience. What is uncommon is to be able to reflect on the nature and character of God in the midst of those trials. It is a great comfort to suffering people (which we will all be at some point or another) to know that God is sovereign over all things as the Creator of heaven and earth. Because He is God, He does not need sleep the way we need sleep. He is able to care for us in even the most vulnerable spot we might find ourselves in.

Not only that, but we can be assured, as God's people, that even if we experience suffering in this life, it is only temporal. No ultimate harm can befall any who trust in the LORD. Knowing Jesus Christ gives us certain hope that just as He suffered to the point of death but was raised again to eternal life, so we can be assured of similar victory, even if we may suffer greatly in this life.

Ultimately, this psalm points us outside ourselves to the transcendent reality that God alone is able to keep us from stumbling and present us blameless in His presence at the end. May we trust in the sovereign grace of God that this psalm teaches us about!

## **Context**

Psalm 121 is one of the "Psalms of Ascent." These were considered "pilgrim songs" for people who were traveling to Jerusalem three times per year for the regular festivals. However, reflecting on what Christ has done in calling us to follow Him on His way—first to the cross, then to glory—we find that these songs for the journey were about much more than a hike across Palestine. In fact, they were meant to provide us with an understanding of God that sustains us on the journey of life as exiles in this world—facing danger all around and within.

**Read and Reflect** *(Use this section to write down any thoughts you had on the sermon. Make sure to note any questions you had about something in the passage or in the sermon.)*

Read Psalm 121

“A Song for the Road”

What kind of help can we expect?

- We can expect POWERFUL help (1-3)
  
- We can expect CONSTANT help (4-5)
  
- We can expect INTIMATE help (5-6)
  
- We can expect FOREVER help (7-8)

