

PSALM 125 2024 – *The LORD the Strength of the People!*

3/16/24 Sat. Morn Prayer - P. Twente, www.ptwente.com 714 425-9221; ptwente@gmail.com

ROCK OF AGES – Augustus Toplady (1740-1778), sung by Ernie Ford (2:39)

1. *Rock of Ages, cleft for me. Let me hide myself in Thee; Let the water and the blood From Thy wounded side which flowed, Be of sin the double cure; Save from wrath and make me pure.*

2. *Could my tears forever flow, Could my zeal no languor know, These for sin could not atone; Thou must save, and Thou alone. In my hand no price I bring; Simply to Thy cross I cling*

3. *While I draw this fleeting breath When my eyes shall close in death. When I rise to worlds unknown, and behold Thee on Thy Throne. Rock of Ages, cleft for me, Let me hide myself in Thee. Let me hide myself in Thee.*

PSALM 125 – 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 LORD the Strength of the People! - A Song of Ascents.

The Lord Surrounds His People Psalm 125 is one of those that speaks of the surroundings of the city.

Psa 125:1 Those who trust in the LORD Are like Mount Zion, Which cannot be moved (shaken), but abides forever.

- Mount Zion, the mount upon which the city of David was built. It does not totter, it just sits! A tremendous place of defense. It was as almost God designed it to be easily defended. The Mount Zion standing there. A reminder to the people. If they put their trust in the Lord, they will be as Mount Zion. They won't be removed but will stand steadfast. How important it is to put our trust in the Lord. The strength and stability that come. (*Eph 1:4*) just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love.
- You put your trust in man and you're apt to be as one who is on a landslide. I mean, the mountain is moved. But putting your trust in the Lord. The strength, the stability, is as Mount Zion.

Psa 125:2 As the mountains surround Jerusalem, So the LORD surrounds His people From this time forth and forever.

- On the east side of Jerusalem, the Mount of Olives; On the south side of Jerusalem, above it and looking out, what is called traditionally, the mount of evil counsel. It is thought that that is the mountain in which Ahithophel gave his counsel to Absalom when he was coming to Jerusalem to overtake his father.
- To the north side of Jerusalem, Mount Scopus. Jerusalem is surrounded by the mountains and thus here, "As the mountains surround Jerusalem." The pilgrims standing there in Jerusalem seeing Mount Scopus, the Mount of Olives, the mount of evil counsel, and as these mountains surround Jerusalem,
- *So the LORD surrounds His people From this time forth and forever.* How our lives are so encompassed by God. We find David saying, (*Psa 139:5*) *You have hedged me behind and before, And laid Your hand upon me.* I'm surrounded by God. I never arrive at any place but what God has not preceded me there and prepared that place for me. God goes before me. He surrounds me.
- The Lord said to the children of Israel that through their wandering in the wilderness, through those forty years, He said I went before you and prepared the place for you to pitch your tents. God always goes before us. He prepares the place for us to pitch our tents. I do not arrive at any point or any situation in life but what God has not preceded me there. He prepared the place for me to pitch my tent and in turn, prepared me for that place.

Psa 125:3 For the scepter of wickedness shall not rest On the land allotted to the righteous, Lest the righteous reach out their hands to iniquity (to do evil).

- *For the scepter of the wicked shall not rest (remain) On the land allotted to the righteous.* The people of God are not to expect immunity from trial because the Lord surrounds them, for they may feel the power and persecution of the ungodly. Egypt's rod was exceeding heavy upon Israel, but the time came for it to be broken. God has set a limit to the woes of His chosen, the rod may light on their portion, but it shall not rest upon it. The saints abide forever, but their troubles will not.
- *Lest the righteous reach out their hands to iniquity.*” The tendency of oppression is to drive the best of men into some hasty deed for self-deliverance or vengeance. We may therefore expect that He will set a boundary to the suffering of the innocent, and will not allow them to be pushed to the uttermost extreme.
- Especially in point of time He will limit the domination of the persecutor, for length adds strength to oppression, and makes it intolerable: hence the Lord Himself said of a certain tribulation, (**Mat 24:22**) *And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened.* It seems that even righteous men are in peril of sinning in evil days, and that it is not the will of the Lord that they should yield to the stress of the times in order to escape from suffering. (**Is 11:6**) *The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, The leopard shall lie down with the young goat, The calf and the young lion and the fatling together; And a little child shall lead them.*

Psa 125:4 Do good, O LORD, to those who are good, And to those who are upright in their hearts.

- (**Psa 119:68**) *You are good, and do good; Teach me Your statutes.*

Psa 125:5 As for such as turn aside to their crooked ways, The LORD shall lead (banish) them away With the workers of iniquity. Peace be upon Israel!

- Men to be good at all must be good at heart. Those who trust in the Lord are good; for faith is the root of righteousness, and the evidence of uprightness.
- Faith in God is a good and upright thing, and its influence makes the rest of the man good and upright. To such God will do good.
- The prayer of the text is but another form of promise, for that which the Lord prompts us to ask, He virtually promises to give. Jehovah will take off evil from His people, and in the place thereof will enrich them with all manner of good. When the rod of the wicked is gone His own rod and staff shall comfort us. Meanwhile it is for us to pray that it may be well with all the upright who are now among men. God bless them, and do them good in every possible form.
- That is actually sort of a prayer, *Peace be upon Israel.* The prayer, “Do good, O Lord, unto those that are good, to those that are upright in their hearts.” Lord, just be good to them. “*As for such as turn aside to their crooked ways, The LORD shall lead them away With the workers of iniquity. Peace be upon Israel!*”

HE IS OUR PEACE - *Maranatha! Music (5:16)*

He is our peace, Who has broken down every wall, He is our peace, He is our peace.

He is our peace Who has broken down every wall, He is our peace, He is our peace.

Cast all your cares on Him, For He cares for you, He is our peace, He is our peace.

Cast all your cares on Him, For He cares for you, He is our peace, He is our peace. (3X)

PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH/PERSECUTED CHURCH; SCHOOLS; POLICE OFFICERS/MILITARY; ISRAEL:

PRAY FOR OUR NATION'S LEADERS: PRAY FOR CALIFORNIA: PRAY FOR WORLD LEADERS: - Pray for World Leaders, especially their salvation!

CC LIVING WORD STAFF/LEADERSHIP – FOR A NEW LOCATION!!