

# **A Study of the Psalms**

Psalm 120 - 123

***Psalm 121:1-4***

# Psalm 120-134

- Psalms 120-134 are called “Songs of Ascent.”
  - These psalms may have been sung as pilgrims made their way to Jerusalem to worship the Lord.
  - All ceremonially clean and able-bodied men were required to journey to Jerusalem each year for all three feasts.
    - Passover
    - Feast of Weeks (Pentecost or Harvest Feast)
    - Feast of Tabernacles (Feast of Booths)

# Psalm 120

- A Prayer for Deliverance.
  - From lying lips. *vs 1-4*

# Psalm 120

- 1 In my distress I cried to the LORD, And He heard me.
- 2 Deliver my soul, O LORD, from lying lips And from a deceitful tongue. **Cf. Psa 101:7**
- 3 What shall be given to you, Or what shall be done to you, You false tongue?
- 4 Sharp arrows of the warrior, With coals of the broom tree!

# Psalm 120

- A Prayer for Deliverance.
  - *From lying lips. vs 1-4*
  - From haters of peace. vs 5-7

# Psalm 120

- 5 Woe is me, that I dwell in Meshech, That I dwell among the tents of Kedar!
- 6 My soul has dwelt too long With one who hates peace.
- 7 I am for peace; But when I speak, they are for war.

# Psalm 121

- The Lord My Keeper. *Psa 121:1-8*

# Psalm 121

- 1 I will lift up my eyes to the hills—From whence comes my help?
- 2 My help comes from the LORD, Who made heaven and earth. **\*Psa 124:8**
- 3 He will not allow your foot to be moved; He who keeps you will not slumber.
- 4 Behold, He who keeps Israel Shall neither slumber nor sleep.

# Psalm 121

- 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 shall preserve you from all evil; He shall preserve your soul.
- 8 The LORD shall preserve your going out and your coming in From this time forth, and even forevermore.

# Psalm 122

- The Peace of Jerusalem.
  - The house of the Lord. vs 1-5

# Psalm 122

- 1 I was glad **\*samach** when they said to me,  
“Let us go into the house of the LORD.”
- 2 Our feet have been standing Within your  
gates, O Jerusalem!

\* *Samach* usually refers to a spontaneous emotion or extreme happiness which is expressed in some visible and/or external manner. It does not normally represent an abiding state of wellbeing or feeling. (Vine's)

# Psalm 122

- 3 Jerusalem is built As a city that is compact together,
- 4 Where the tribes go up, The tribes of the LORD, To the Testimony of Israel, To give thanks to the name of the LORD.
- 5 For thrones are set there for judgment, The thrones of the house of David.

# Psalm 122

- The Peace of Jerusalem.
  - *The house of the Lord. vs 1-5*
  - The prayer for its peace and prosperity. vs 6-9

# Psalm 122

- 6 Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: “May they prosper who love you.
- 7 Peace be within your walls, Prosperity within your palaces.”
- 8 For the sake of my brethren and companions, I will now say, “Peace be within you.”
- 9 Because of the house of the LORD our God I will seek your good.

# Psalm 123

- A Song of Confidence in God.
  - Looking to the Lord. *vs 1-2*

# Psalm 123

- 1 Unto You I lift up my eyes, O You who dwell in the heavens.
- 2 Behold, as the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters, As the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress, So our eyes look to the LORD our God, Until He has mercy on us.

# Psalm 123

- A Song of Confidence in God.
  - *Looking to the Lord. vs 1-2*
  - Prayer for mercy. vs 3-4

# Psalm 123

- 3 Have mercy on us, O LORD, have mercy on us! For we are exceedingly filled with contempt.
- 4 Our soul is exceedingly filled With the scorn of those who are at ease, With the contempt of the proud.