

Sermon Outline
The Rev. Dr. S. Edd Cathey
Thanksgiving for Your Keeper
November 22, 2015

Sermon Text: Psalm 121

Psalm 121- the end of a journey

v. 1. Ascent - Songs of Ascent

Steps upward

Corporate focus- Israel

[4] Behold, he who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

Individual and personal focus of faith

[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] Behold, he who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

[5] The LORD is your keeper; the LORD is your shade on 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 forth and forevermore.

Two immediate images: the going and coming of pilgrims **and** the going and coming of sheep (John 10:1-4 and 27-30)

The LORD- YHWH is **keeper** 6 times - strong possessive

Why will God keep you?

Psalm 2 says: [4] The wicked are .. like chaff that the wind drives away. [5] Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;

You need the LORD as your keeper because of your sins!

God so loved us that He added human flesh to the God-head to save us! Died for us! Bought us! Interceeds for us! Will come again for us! (Romans 8:31-34 ESV)

“If God can save an enemy, **he can surely keep a friend**”

Q. How are you righteous before God?

A. Only by true faith in Jesus Christ.

Even though my conscience accuses me of having grievously sinned against all God's commandments, of never having kept any of them, and of still being inclined toward all evil, nevertheless, without any merit of my own, out of sheer grace, God grants and credits to me the perfect satisfaction, righteousness, and holiness of Christ, as if I had never sinned nor been a sinner, and as if I had been as perfectly obedient as Christ was obedient for me.

All I need to do is accept this gift with a believing heart.