SCRIPTURE: Psalm 129:1-8

SERMON: Confidence under Persecution 26 July 2015

INTRODUCTION

- A. PSALMS OF ASCENTS (120-134; geographical, spiritual; perh. architectural, literary, vocal; 2Chr8:13; Ps24:3; Hb12:22f)
- **B. PRIESTLY PRECENTOR** (1,2; 124:1,2; see 129:8b; 128:5,6; Num.6:24-26; see 1Chr.15:22,27)
- C. ISRAEL IN ZION: THE GATHERED PEOPLE OF GOD (1,5; see Ex.23:14-17)
- **D. PAST PERFORMANCE & FUTURE RETURNS** (1-4 & 5-8; see Mal.3:6; Heb.13:8; see Ps.120-134)

I. <u>PAST PERFORMANCE: DELIVERANCE FROM PERSECUTION</u> (1-4)

- **A. PERSECUTED: HOSTILE ENEMY** (1,2; see Ex.23:22; Num.25:17; see 120:1f; 123:3f; 125:3f; 127:5; 132:18)
- **B. FROM YOUTH UP** (1,2; see Hos.11:1(Mt.2:15); Ex.4:22f; see Lk.3:23)
- C. MANY, MUCH (1,2; see see Judges; Assyrians, Babylonians, etc.; Dan.2:6f; 10:20f)
- **D. NOT PREVAILED** (2b; 2Cor.4:9 /Judges; David; Dan.2:44; 7:13f(Mt.24:30; 26:64; Acts 2:32f) /Ps.107:6,13,19,28)
- **E. PLOWERS: DEEP & LONG** (3; see Jer.26:18=Micah 3:12; see Is.50:6; 53:5; Mt.27:26)
- **F. THE LORD IS RIGHTEOUS** (4a(b); 11:7; 145:7; 2Chr.12:6; Lam.1:18; Job 1:21; see 1Pt.4:19; 5:10)
- **G. CUT THE CORDS OF THE WICKED** (4b; (2:3); Job 39:10 /Ps.124:6f; 130:1f /Acts 2:24; Ps.18:4f; 116:3f)

II. <u>FUTURE EXPECTATIONS: DELIVERANCE FROM PERSECUTION</u> (5-8)

- A. FUTURE: DESCRIPTION, PETITION (5-8)
- **B. ALL WHO HATE ZION** (5a; see 1-4; 120:6; 9:13; 21:8; 41:7; 106:10,41; Mt.10:22; 24:9; Lk.1:71; Jn.15:18f)
- **C. PUT TO SHAME; TURNED BACK** (5b; 31:17; 44:7; Tt.2:8; 1Pt.3:16 /2Kngs.18:22f; 19:33f /Ps.9:3; 35:4; 40:14; 56:9; 70:2,3)
- **D. ILLUSTRATION: GRASS ON ROOF** (6-8a; see Is.37:27; Mk.4:5,6; see Ruth 2:4)

III. **PRESENT** BLESSING: CONFIDENCE UNDER PERSECUTION (8b,1; see 128:5,6; 125:5b; Num.6:24-26 /1Pt.4:19; 5:10; Heb.10:32f; 11:8f,32f,35; see Mk.10:33,34; Heb.12:2; Ps.22:1f,19f; w/Rom.6:3,4; 8:17)

Brethren, what shall WE DO? (see Acts 2:37f)