INTRODUCTION

- A. PSALMS OF ASCENTS (120-134; geographical, spiritual; perh. architectural, literary, vocal; 2Chr8:13; Ps24:3; Hb12:22f)
- **B. ASCENTS: DEPTHS TO HEIGHTS** (1,8; see 121:1f; 123:1f; see Deut.6:23; Col.1:13)
- C. PENITENTIAL PSALMS (3,8; also Ps.6,32,38,51,102,143)
- D. PRAYER, PROFESSIONS & PERSUASION (1,2; 3,4; 5,6; 7,8)
- E. FOCUS: INIQUITIES(3)→ [FORGIVENESS(4) X REDEMPTION(7,8a)] ←INIQUITIES (8b)

I. <u>PRAYER FOR HELP</u> (1,2)

- A. JUSTICE: WAGES OF SIN IS DEPTH (1; 3,8; Lam.3:55; Prov.28:10; Rom.6:23 /Jon2:1f; Jer38:6; Dan6:24)
- B. VOICE: PERSONAL COMMUNICATION (2,2; see 103:20; Acts 12:14)
- C. LORD: THE COVENANT GOD (1,(2),3,5,(6),7; see 7b; Ex.6:7)
- D. INTENSE: CRIES, SUPPLICATIONS; ATTENTIVE (2,2; see Heb.5:7; Rom.8:26f; 1Th.3:10; Jms.5:16f)

II. <u>PROFESSION OF FAITH</u> (3,4)

- A. JUSTICE MEANS DESTRUCTION (3; 32:2(Rom.4:8); 1Cor.13:5; see Ps.1:5; (24:3f); Mal.3:2; Rev.6:17) B. FORGIVENESS MEANS REVERENCE (4; 1Kngs.8:39,40; Jer.33:8,9; Rom.3:26; see Lk.7:47; not Rom.6:1)
- C. THE KNOWLEDGE OF FORGIVENESS (4; see Lev.4:20,26,31,35; etc.; 16:21; Mt.26:28; Acts 2:38)

III. PROFESSION OF HOPE (5,6)

A. HOPE: EAGER, CONFIDENT, PERSISTENT, WHOLE-HEARTED WAITING (5,5; 5; see 6; Rm.8:18-25)
B. FOR HIS WORD: FORGIVENESS & REDEMPTION (5b; 4 & 1,7,8; 119:49,116,147; see Mt.9:2-8)
C. WATCHMEN: CERTAIN, BUT NOT YET (6; see Rom.8:18-25; Rev.7:17; 21:4 /2Pt.1:19; Rev.2:28; 22:16)

IV. <u>PERSUASION TO HOPE</u> (7,8)

- A. ISRAEL: THE GATHERED PEOPLE OF GOD (7; 131:3 /Songs of Ascents; Ex.23:14-17; Heb.10:25; 12:22)
- **B. REASON: COVENANT LOVE TO SAVE** (7,4; see 6:4; 17:7; 31:16; 69:2,13; 109:26; Ex.6:7; Is.43:1f; Hos.)
- C. BLESSED HOPE: ALL HIS PEOPLE, ALL THEIR SINS & DEPTHS, ALL TIME (8; 25:22; see Lev.16:21 w/Heb.9:12,26,28; 10:35-39; see Tt.2:13; Rom.8:18f; Rev.19-22)

CONCLUSION

A. TRUST GOD FOR FORGIVENESS & WAIT FOR HIS REDEMPTION (3,4 & 7,8; see Mt.9:2&6) B. PRAY EARNESTLY & WAIT EAGERLY (1,2 & 5,6; Ps42,43; see Rm8:26f & 18f; see 2Pt1:19; Rev2:28; 22:16)

Brethren, what shall <u>WE DO</u>? (see Acts 2:37f)