

2021.01.10 Sunday Sermon <God's Hands>

Psalm 121:1-2

¹ *I lift up my eyes to the mountains—where does my help come from?*

² *My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.*

Psalm 138:6-8

⁶ *Though the Lord is exalted, he looks kindly on the lowly; though lofty, he sees them from afar.*

⁷ *Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve my life. You stretch out your hand against the anger of my foes; with your right hand you save me.*

⁸ *The Lord will vindicate me; your love, Lord, endures forever— do not abandon the works of your hands.*

As we read through Psalm 138, we see how David is thankful for all that the Lord has done for him. Let us look at the image on the screen, we see separation between two hands. Whenever I see this image, I feel as though the Lord's hand is reaching out to us. As we read in Psalm 138:7, we see how the Lord's hands reached out to David.

Psalm 138:7

⁷ *Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve my life. You stretch out your hand against the anger of my foes; with your right hand you save me.*

Let us learn more about the Lord's hands and how He has helped David's life.

1. Hands that Rescue Us

- In Psalm chapter 40, we see how the Lord rescued David from desperate moments.

Psalm 40:2

² *He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire; he set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand.*

- Similar to David, Israelites had many desperate moments and we see how the Lord rescued them when they were in wilderness.

Exodus 7:5

⁵ *And the Egyptians will know that I am the Lord when I stretch out my hand against Egypt and bring the Israelites out of it.”*

Exodus 6:1

¹ *Then the Lord said to Moses, “Now you will see what I will do to Pharaoh: Because of my mighty hand he will let them go; because of my mighty hand he will drive them out of his country.”*

- I heard many testimonies about how the Lord rescued people during wars, accidents, and while they were ill. I too also experienced the Lord's hand rescuing me during Kenya missionary.
- Image of Train Accident in Egypt (January 28, 2020) - Last year, as the train was approaching the station, its loud horn shocked one girl and she fell into the track. Her father seeing the daughter fall, he jump down and rescued and protected her as the train approached the station. Just like the father, our Lord rescued David and He will rescue us.
- When we are faced with trouble, let us pray to the Lord. And just as the Lord reached out and rescued David, the Lord will rescue us.

Psalm 40:17

¹⁷ *But as for me, I am poor and needy; may the Lord think of me. You are my help and my deliverer; you are my God, do not delay.*

2. Hands that Protect Us

- The Lord also protected David when he was in trouble from his enemies. Let us look at Psalm chapter 25.

Psalm 25:19-20

¹⁹ *See how numerous are my enemies and how fiercely they hate me!*

²⁰ *Guard my life and rescue me; do not let me be put to shame, for I take refuge in you.*

- The Lord also protected the Israelites while they were in the wilderness.

Deuteronomy 1:31

³¹ *and in the wilderness. There you saw how the Lord your God carried you, as a father carries his son, all the way you went until you reached this place."*

- When we look at 1 Kings chapter 19, we also see the Lord's hands reaching out to Elijah. The Lord protects him by sending the angels as Elijah flees to Horeb. His protection and the angels represents hope and provides strength to Elijah.

1 Kings 19:5

⁵ *Then he lay down under the bush and fell asleep. All at once an angel touched him and said, "Get up and eat."*

- Testimony of Deaconess
When I was 10 years old, my father suffered from tuberculosis. My mother passed away when I was a baby and if my father passed, I would be an orphan. I prayed to the Lord to save my father, but he passed away. I was so hurt that the Lord did not answer my prayer. Time passed and I met someone very special. On our wedding day, I thought about my parents and just as I was about to walk the aisle, I heard the Lord's voice. He said, "I have sent your husband to be next to you instead of your father." At the end, the Lord answered my prayer and protected me by sending my husband.
- Just as the Lord's hands protected David, Israelites, Elijah, and the deaconess, our Lord will protect us when we reach out for help.

3. Hands that Guide Us

- As we look at psalm 139, we see how David is near end of his life and he looks back at his life. He realizes how the Lord guided his life from the beginning to the end.

Psalm 139:10

¹⁰ *even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast.*

- Let us look at the chart below which outlines David's life. We see how the Lord guided David from the beginning to the end. The Lord was with him even through David's failures and mistakes.

Shepherd	15-20
Soldier	20-30
King	30-70
Bathsheba	49
Absalom	61
Solomon	70

- As we look at 1 Chronicles chapter 29, we see till the end of David's life how Lord protected him and blessed him.

1 Chronicles 29:28

²⁸ *He died at a good old age, having enjoyed long life, wealth and honor. His son Solomon succeeded him as king.*

- Some researchers have indicated that Psalm chapter 48 could have been written by David and it shows how David believed in the Lord to guide him till the end.

Psalm 48:14

For this God is our God forever and ever; he will be our guide even to the end.

- Aside from David, we also see how our Lord guided Paul's life.

Romans 8:28

²⁸ *And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who^[a] have been called according to his purpose.*

Philippians 1:6

⁶ *being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.*

Just as the Lord guided David and Paul, He will guide us till the end.

- Testimony of Pastor Han Kyung Jik
During my ministry in North Korea, I became very discouraged and weak. One night, I cried out to the Lord, "I have to give up my pastor's duty and quit my ministry." As I was crying out to the Lord, I must have fallen into sleep and dreamt I was walking on an unpaved road. As I was walking, I was so weak I was fall on my left and a large hand appeared and raised me up. I kept walking and as I was about to fall again, two hands appeared and raised me up. I finally woke up from the dream and realized it was not myself that was leading the ministry. The Lord is guiding me and will continue to guide me through this ministry.
- The Lord, who guided David till the end, is the same Lord who will guide us till the end.

John 10:29

²⁹ *My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand.*

- Testimony of Dr. Smart
One day I was doing my rounds in emergency room and saw a father running into the hospital with his young daughter. Her eyelids were severely torn due to an accident. I had to stitch the torn area without anesthesia and I asked her if she could hold the pain. The girl responded, "if I hold onto my father's hand I will be okay." The father was by her side throughout the procedure and she held onto the pain well. The procedure ended without any problem. Just like the father was with the daughter during difficult moment, our Lord is with us and guides us through difficult moments in our lives.

In Summary: Our Lord's hands will RESCUE, PROTECT, and GUIDE us till the end.