



## Lesson 7: Security

Psalm 125 (The Message)

<sup>1-5</sup> **125** Those who trust in God  
are like Zion Mountain:  
Nothing can move it, a rock-solid mountain  
you can always depend on.  
Mountains encircle Jerusalem,  
and God encircles his people—  
always has and always will.  
The fist of the wicked  
will never violate  
What is due the righteous,  
provoking wrongful violence.  
Be good to your good people, God,  
to those whose hearts are right!  
God will round up the backsliders,  
corral them with the incorrigibles.  
Peace over Israel!

### ***I. Secure In The Fortress***

The emphasis of Psalm 125 is not on the precariousness of the Christian life but on how solid it really is! The psalm uses familiar geography to demonstrate this truth:

*Those who trust in God  
are like Zion Mountain:  
Nothing can move it, a rock-solid mountain  
you can always depend on.  
Mountains encircle Jerusalem,  
and God encircles his people—  
always has and always will.*

George Smith in his book, *Historical Geography of the Holy Land* said the city of Jerusalem had, “borders and bulwarks of extraordinary variety of intricacy” which illustrates and enforces the reality of God’s love and care for us.

## ***II. The Seesaw Of Israel***

However, we still get fearful, uncertain, and even insecure as Christians. Singing Psalm 125 is one of the ways we as Christians can develop a stronger confidence in God by faith to banish our fears.

One threat to our security is when we have feelings of depression and doubt. The person of faith, is described in this Psalm as “a rock-solid mountain...nothing can move it.” However, I am full of faith one day and the next I’m depressed and doubtful. Israel experienced this same type of life. One day they are marching through the Red Sea free from slavery singing songs of victory, the next they are complaining about the desert because they missed having Egyptian steak and potatoes. But in this seesaw story we must remember that there was something that never changed: they were always God’s people. God was steadfastly with them, in mercy, and judgment, and with miraculous amounts of grace.

## ***III. A Threatening Sword***

Another source of uncertainty is our pain and suffering. Unpleasant things happen to us. Why does God allow this happen? Anxiety gets into our hearts. The Psalmist knows all this. Sickness and death, despair, and persecution. Psalm 125 was written from a person who experienced pain and suffering but why didn’t this destroy his confidence?

The answer is in these words of the Psalm: “The fist of the wicked/will never violate/ What is due the righteous,/ provoking wrongful violence.” The key word is violate: cancel God’s purposes that are being worked out. Danger and oppression are never too much for faith. They were not too much for Job, for Jeremiah, and they were not too much for Jesus. Evil is always temporary. (1 Corinthians 10:13)

## ***IV. Secure In Christ***

The third threat to our confidence promised to us by God is the possibility of apostasy or defection or falling away from God. God will never force you or me against our will. Falling away is possible- How do we know? We know of Judas. We know of Hymenaeus and Alexander, who made shipwreck of their faith in 1 Timothy 1:19-20. In the Psalms they are described as backsliders.

If it is then possible to fall away, how do I know that I won’t or even worse, that I haven’t? How do I know that I have not already lost faith, especially during the times I am depressed or have one problem after another piled on me?

First, we must always deal with insecurities directly and plainly. It is not possible to drift away unconsciously from the faith. It is a choice; one you know you are making. While we are like sheep who wonder astray, Jesus our Shepherd will always peruse us relentlessly.

The opening phrase of this Psalm is “those who trust in God” – not those who trust in themselves, their performance, their morals, in their righteousness, in their health, in their preacher, in their president, in their economy, or nation – it those who trust in God! We believe God is for us and we have faith that God will keep His promise to save us for eternal salvation in Christ Jesus.

## **V.     ***Mountain Climbers Roped Together*****

Being a Christian is like sitting in the middle of Jerusalem, fortified and secure. And so, the last sentence is “Peace over Israel!” Another translation would be, “Relax.” We are secure. God is Lord and King. Neither our feelings of depression, nor the facts of suffering, nor the possibilities of falling away are evidence that God has abandoned us. There is nothing more secure than the will of God that wants to accomplish our salvation.

*Then they said to Him, “Lord, always give us this bread.” Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life; he who comes to Me will not hunger, and he who believes in Me will never thirst. “But I said to you that you have seen Me, and yet do not believe. “All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will certainly not cast out. “For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me. “This is the will of Him who sent Me, that of all that He has given Me I lose nothing, but raise it up on the last day. “For this is the will of My Father, that everyone who beholds the Son and believes in Him will have eternal life, and I Myself will raise him up on the last day.” (John 8:34-40)*

Our life with God is a sure thing! It is for those who come to Jesus for eternal life! Will you?