

Series: Pathway Through the Psalms

IF IT HAD NOT BEEN THE LORD

PSALMS 124

Text: Psalms 124:1

Psalm 124:1

¹ If it had not been the LORD who was on our side, now may Israel say;

Introduction:

Often we think and even ask at time what could have been.

We have here in our something similar as we read, “If it had not been the Lord.”

Though this a very short psalm it contains some amazing things for us to consider.

It is this thought we consider this evening, “If It Had Not Been the Lord on Our Side.”

Sermon Content:

Note:

We notice what is implied in these verses.

1. THE ATTENTION OF THE LORD – “OUR HELP IS IN THE NAME OF THE LORD (VS. 8)

Psalm 124:8

⁸ Our help is in the name of the LORD, who made heaven and earth.

Understand:

A. The Lord Eyes our Despair

Psalm 102:19-20

*¹⁹ For he hath looked down from the height of his sanctuary; from heaven did the LORD behold the earth;
²⁰ To hear the groaning of the prisoner; to loose those that are appointed to death;*

Sometime we feel that God doesn't know what we experience or what may be going on in our lives or around us, but He does know, and He hears the groanings of His people.

Not only does He “Eye or Despair” but also:

B. The Lord Embraced our Dilemma

Hebrews 2:17

¹⁷ Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people.

Knowing our dilemma the Lord took on the form of a man, a man who knew no sin, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest to make reconciliation for the sins of the people.

Not only does He “Eye or Despair” and “Embraced our Dilemma but also:

C. He Was Emptied for Our Deliverance

2 Corinthians 8:9

⁹ For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich.

As the Lord embraced our dilemma, He emptied Himself for our deliverance.

Note not only the Attention of the Lord but secondly:

2. THE AWARENESS OF OUR POSSIBILITIES – IF IT HAD NOT BEEN FOR THE LORD, WE WOULD HAVE BEEN:

A. Doomed (vs. 1-2)

Psalm 124:1-2

¹ If it had not been the LORD who was on our side, now may Israel say; ² If it had not been the LORD who was on our side, when men rose up against us:

Israel had and continues to have numerous enemies.

We too should be thankful for the Lord protecting us from the enemy.

Notice not only would they be doomed but there was also the possibility of being:

B. Devoured (vs. 3)

Psalm 124:3

³ Then they had swallowed us up quick, when their wrath was kindled against us:

- Sought Out By the Enemy

It literally means to be ate up alive.

Satan has been seeking who he can devour since we are introduced to him in the book of Genesis.

Note: Job 1:7

Job 1:7

⁷ And the LORD said unto Satan, Whence comest thou? Then Satan answered the LORD, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it.

- Swallowed by the Enemy

Remember the enemy not only seek but also desires to devour.

1 Peter 5:8

⁸ Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

There is not only the possibility of being Doomed, Devoured, but also:

C. Defeated (vs. 4)

Psalm 124:4

⁴ Then the waters had overwhelmed us, the stream had gone over our soul:

And those that the water didn't destroy would experience:

The enemy is not kind and desires to Doom, Devour, and Defeat you and me.

Let's consider one final thought

3. THE ANSWER OF OUR PROVISION

Because of the Lord:

A. We Can Find Pardon Instead of Doom (vs. 6)

Psalm 124:6

⁶ Blessed be the LORD, who hath not given us as a prey to their teeth.

Remember what we read in Micah 7:

Micah 7:18

¹⁸ Who is a God like unto thee, that pardoneth iniquity, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of his heritage? he retaineth not his anger for ever, because he delighteth in mercy.

Because of the Lord:

B. We Can Be Protected Instead of Devoured (vs. 7)

Psalm 124:7

⁷ Our soul is escaped as a bird out of the snare of the fowlers: the snare is broken, and we are escaped.

Note the words “escaped”

Because of the Lord we are protected.

Because of the Lord:

C. We Can Prevail Instead of Being Defeated –
“The snare is broken” (vs. 7)

Psalm 124:7

⁷ Our soul is escaped as a bird out of the snare of the fowlers: the snare is broken, and we are escaped.

D. We Can Be Pleased Instead of Disappointed
(vs. 8)

Psalm 124:8

⁸ Our help is in the name of the LORD, who made heaven and earth.

Close:

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

Hebrews 13:6

⁶ So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.

If it wasn't for the Lord we would be men and women most miserable.