

The Psalms of Ascents

Thursday

Psalm 125

Psalm 125 tells us that we need to trust in the Lord. Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion. This means that when we trust in the Lord we can be strengthened and overcome. We not only face the outward environment, we also experience the old man within us. Within us is both the scepter of wickedness and the allotment of the righteous. In the process of our growth in life, we discover that the real difficulties are not outward things, they are within our person. Within us is something called the scepter of wickedness. This is the life of Adam, the life of our flesh. After we are saved, a new life enters us, the Holy Spirit enters into us; but our original natural man, our natural life, the life of our flesh, is still within. These two lives are always at war so we cannot do what we desire to do. As Paul said, to will is up to me, but it is not up to me when I want to do it. If we Christians do not recognize what is within us, it is difficult for us to grow in life. We desire to pursue the Lord and serve the Lord, but when we try to, we find a difficulty. The difficulty is our flesh, our natural life; it becomes our most difficult limitation. So Galatians says that the Spirit wars against our flesh and our flesh wars against the Spirit. The two war against each other. In Romans chapter 7, Paul said that when I desire to do good, evil is within me and even captures me so that I follow the law of sin. Where is salvation? Paul asked, "Who can save me from this sinful flesh?" Praise the Lord, Romans chapter 8 is the answer. The answer is that the law of the Spirit of life within us can overcome the law of sin and of death. This is what Psalm 125 is referring to when it says that the scepter of wickedness will not rest on the allotment of the righteous. Even though the life of the flesh is within us, the life of Christ is also within us. The life in our flesh cannot overcome the life in our spirit. Therefore, God wants us to experience the life within us that can overcome the law of sin and of death, that can release us from the bondage of our flesh.