New Deliverance Church
11200 SOUTH STATE STREET - CHICAGO, IL 60628
TELEPHONE: 773-785-7476
REV. MARTY C. GOOL, PASTOR

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Pastor's Corner

God Is In Control

Psalm 121:1-8

In today's "Trump world," life and living is so uncertain. We look for some form of security and we find none. With the pandemic forcing fear and depression on a society so used to things being lighter than they are presently, many are baffled and confused. The vast majority are looking for answers to the most basic questions about food, shelter and education. We find our leadership spending time engaging in conspiracy theories that have nothing to do with the issues that matter most. People are concerned about the eviction notices they find on their door. They are concerned about the missing paycheck that will determine if their children eat today. How does the Child of God survive these challenges that confront us every day?

The Psalmist raised the age old question, "In times of trouble who can I turn to?" When the ground is giving way beneath me, who can I turn to? Is there anyone who can lift this debilitating weight from my shoulders? He asks the question "in time of trouble who can I run to?"

This is a Psalm that makes it clear that even kings fall prey to troubles that are beyond their ability to handle. In time of trouble, King David knew the answer to this question. David states, without a moment of hesitation, without a moment of reflection, "My help comes from the Lord." David knew that God alone had both the power and the will to comfort us. **In times of trouble our faith must tell us "God is in control." The God who neither slumbers nor sleeps watches over us.**

A story is told of a strong man who faced an enemy beyond his strength. His young wife had become gravely ill and suddenly passed away leaving the big man alone with a

wide-eyed little girl, not quite five years old. The service in the little village was simple and heavy with grief.

After the burial at the small cemetery, the man's neighbors gathered around him saying, "please bring your little girl and stay with us a few days." Someone said, "you shouldn't go home just yet." Broken hearted though he was, the man answered, "thank you friends for the kind offer, but we need to go back home where she was. My baby and I must face this," So they returned, the big man and the little girl, to what seemed like an empty and lifeless home. The man brought his daughter's little bed in his room so they could face the first dark night together. As the minutes slipped by that night, the young girl was having a dreadful time sleeping… and so was her father. What could pierce a man's heart deeper than a child sobbing for a mother who will never come back? Long into the night the little one continued to weep. The big man reached down into her bed and tried to comfort her as best he could. After a while the little girl managed to stop crying – but out of concern for her father. Thinking his daughter was asleep, the father looked up and said in a heavy and broken voice, "I trust you Father, but … it's dark as midnight." Hearing her father's prayer, the little girl began to cry again. "I though you were asleep, baby," he said. "Papa, I did try. I was sorry for you. I did try. But I could not go to sleep. Papa did you ever know it could be so dark? Why Papa? I can't even see you it's so dark." Then through her tears the little girl whispered, "but you love me even if it's dark, don't you Papa?" For an answer, the big man reached across with his massive hands and lifted the girl out of her bed, brought her over onto his chest and held her, until at last she fell asleep. When she was finally quiet, he began to pray. He took his little daughter's words for himself and passed it up tot God. "Father, it's dark as midnight. I can't see you at all. But you love me, even when its dark and I can't see, don't you?" From that dark moment onward, the Lord touched him with new strength enabling him to carry on. He knew that God loved him even in the dark.

The key to understanding this story and this Psalm is to believe that there is a power great enough to solve our problems. There is a God who will come to your rescue. No matter how dark the hour the God who sits high will stoop low and carry you and the burden. And we must come to know that we have access to that power. We too can say like David:

"I LIFT MINE EYES TO THE HILLS - WHERE DOES MY HELP COME FROM? MY HELP COMES FROM THE LORD, THE MAKER OF HEAVEN AND EARTH. HE WILL NOT LET MY FOOT SLIP, HE THAT WATCHES OVER ISRAEL WILL NEITHER SLUMBER NOR WILL HE SLEEP." PSALM 121:1-4

In times of difficulty we need to know that God is in control. It does not matter what the situation is, God is in control. It doesn't matter how bad it seems, God is in control. Those who trust in God can testify that God is in control. This must become our daily testimonial. For in times like these it is easy to believe that the actions of men are more powerful than the God of creation. This is not so.

PSALM 121:7-8 tells of the unspeakable power of God to keep us in any and every situation, **“THE LORD WILL KEEP YOU FROM ALL HARM, HE WILL WATCH OVER YOUR LIFE, THE LORD WILL WATCH OVER YOUR COMING AND GOING BOTH NOW AND FOREVER.”**

God Bless and remain safe,

Pastor Gool