THE UPWARD LOOK

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Psalm 121: 1-2

"I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills. From whence cometh my help, My help cometh from the Lord, which made Heaven and Earth" Ps. 121:1-2

1. This resolve by the psalmist is worthy noting:

- a) we have no way of knowing the author of this Psalm
- b) The resolve to look to the hills indicates that the author was familiar with the hills and he was enchanted by them

2.The second portion of our opening text clarifies the meaning of the first verse:

The upward look is, in reality, directed to the Lord, who has Heaven and Earth under His control.

It is from the Lord that we receive our help!!

- Members receive help from Him
- The youth receive help from Him
- Church elders receive help from Him
- Church leaders receive help from Him
- Pastors receive help from Him

Beloved; What are the biblical implications for the upward look?

THE UPWARD LOOK AS USED IN THE BIBLE IMPLIES A NUMBER OF IMPORTANT MOVES BY MEN

-It indicates faith in God and His providences:

- a) Our Saviour was accustomed to heaven directing His supplications to his Father Mark 6:41: 7:34: Matt. 14:19.
- b) He admonishes his believers to look up, in so doing they demonstrate their faith in God Luke 21:28.
- c) Writes the Psalmist, "My voice shalt thou hear in the morning will I direct my prayer unto thee, and will look up" Ps. 5:3
- d) "Unto thee lift I up mine eyes, o thou that dwellest in the heaven. Behold as the eyes of the servant look unto the hand of their master, and as the eyes of a maiden unto the hand of her mistress; so our eyes wait upon the Lord our God, Until He have mercy upon us" – Ps.123:1-2

1. It indicates, further, childlike dependence upon god:

a) Says Jesus, "For without me, Ye can do nothing"- John 15:5
We need to realize that without him we can do nothing – nothing is nothing – its
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- b) And he teaches us to say to our heavenly Father, "Give us this day our daily bread" Matt.6:11
- c) Also, we know our heavenly father's love and compassion for us that is why we look up to Him "like as a Father pitieth his children so the Lord pitieth them their fear him: Ps.103:13

THE UPWARD LOOK AND ITS SPECIAL BLESSINGS:

- 1. Note God's special invitation to a sin-sick and troubled world:
 - (a) "look unto me, and be ye saved, all the end of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else" Is. 45;22
 - (b) When Israelites were bitten by the poisonous serpents, God had Moses prepare a brazen serpent and had it set up upon a hill and whoever would look up to that serpent would live Num.21:8-9; John 3:14
 - (c) By beholding the lord of glory, we become changed into the same image 2 Cor.3:17-18
- 2. The upward look to the Creator of heaven and earth becomes imperative for us in view of:
 - (a) The greatness of our need (1) Trails and temptations: (11) Uncertainties joy or sorrow, sore perplexities, calamities, distress, pain and facing death
 - (b) The insufficiency of human help we naturally look to friends for sympathy but there come moments in life when human help avails nothing
 - (c) We are warned in Scripture not to lean on human help –compare Ps.146:3 with Jer .17:6-9; Ps. 62;5-9
 - Our help is in God:
 - a) This has been in past ages and ever will be the testimony of the saints: Examples: Samuel said, 'Hither to hath the Lord helped us' : the three Hebrew boys acknowledged the help of Jehovah so did Daniel Dan.3:17-22: 6:20-21: Heb.11
 - b) He is able to supply all our needs, for With Him are the resources of omnipotence Phil.4:19
 - c) The blessings in the storehouse of our heavenly father await our demand **if we** lack them it is because we do not ask for them Jam. 4: 1-3

3. Ultimately:

- a) The waiting saints are accustomed to looking up to heaven for there is the savior making preparations to take them to heaven too
- b) They look up to Him for blessings
- c) They look up to Him for guidance in leading His church
- d) They look up to Him for wisdom in their daily life
- e) They look up to Him for the fulfillment of His promises to come again
- f) They will look up and see Him coming in the clouds Acts 1:9-11; Is.22:9; Heb.9:28
- g) Look up to Him, when things are bad. Look up Him when things are good
- h) Look up to Him for his coming is near

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- We as leaders have a responsibility of calling up the church –to look up to Jesus
- As a church we have a divine mission of sharing the gospel, of calling upon the world, our friends, our workmates, our relatives and our neighbors to look up to Jesus The author and finisher of our faith.
- Some one needs to come and Look Up to Him today.

APPEAL:

- Is there someone here and now who would like to look up to Jesus!
- Look up to Jesus for the forgiveness of sin
- Look up to Jesus to accept Him as your personal Savior!

This is your opportunity!

- Heaven knows you are there! And because you are there longing to accept the man of Calvary, I invite you just now to raise up your hand for Jesus;
- As you look up to Him I invite to come forward to Jesus accepting Him as your personal savior and as Lord of your life.
- Come now! Now is your time! Now is day! Now is the hour!
- Come! Come! Come my brother come, come my sister come- Come and Look Up to Him as he looks to you and I....

God bless you! God bless you indeed!

AMEN and AMEN!!