

August 7, 2021

**Ps. 121:1-2, “I lift up my eyes to the hills-where does my help come from? My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth.” (NIV)**

One of my former ministry partners used to say something to me every time we would be leaving for a while. He would say, “Keep looking up.” This has always resonated with me for a couple of reasons. First, it reminds me to not be looking down. It reminds me of a similar psalm: **Ps. 43:5, “Why, my soul, are you downcast? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise Him, my Savior and my God. (NIV)** When we are looking down, all we see are the problems around us. They sometimes seem overwhelming or hopeless. No doubt, David could have easily been discouraged by the foes that he was facing or the problems that seemed so large. King Saul thought Goliath was too big to fight, but the young boy David thought Goliath was too big to miss. King Saul was downcast but David was looking up!

Secondly, it reminds me to keep my eyes on spiritual things and not worldly things. What we see with our physical eyes cannot even come close to what is truly happening around us. A perfect picture of that is found in **2 Kings 6:15-17, “When the servant of the man of God got up and went out early the next morning, an army with horses and chariots had surrounded the city. “Oh no, my lord! What shall we do?” the servant asked. “Don’t be afraid,” the prophet answered. “Those who are with us are more than those who are with them.” And Elisha prayed, “Open his eyes, LORD, so that he may see.” Then the LORD opened the servant’s eyes, and he looked and saw the hills full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.” (NIV)**

Lastly, we need to be looking up because very soon our Redeemer will be coming to call us all home. He is waiting for the word of the Father. **John 14:1-6, “Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in Me. My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with Me that you also may be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going.” Thomas said to Him, “Lord, we don’t know where You are going, so how can we know the way?” Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.” (NIV)** And again in **Luke 21:28, “When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.” (NIV)**

**Dear Father, help us to keeping looking up. Our redemption is drawing near. You are coming soon to take us to be with You forever. Help us to not be so consumed with the things of this earth that will soon fade away. Help us to keep our heart and minds on the things of eternal value. In Jesus Name, Amen**