

# *G R O W T H N O T E S*

*Scripture Text: Psalm 124:1-8*

**Today's Message:**

***“WHEN THE LORD IS ON YOUR SIDE!”***

## ***TODAY'S SCRIPTURE TEXT***

***Psalm 124:1-8: NKJV:*** “If it had not been the LORD who was on our side,”  
Let Israel now say—

<sup>2</sup> “If it had not been the LORD who was on our side, When men rose up against us,

<sup>3</sup> Then they would have swallowed us alive, When their wrath was kindled against us;

<sup>4</sup> Then the waters would have overwhelmed us, The stream would have gone over our soul;

<sup>5</sup> Then the swollen waters, Would have gone over our soul.”

<sup>6</sup> Blessed *be* the LORD, Who has not given us *as* prey to their teeth.

<sup>7</sup> Our soul has escaped as a bird from the snare of the fowlers; The snare is broken, and we have escaped.

<sup>8</sup> Our help *is* in the name of the LORD, Who made heaven and earth.

### ***BACKGROUND OF TODAY'S MESSAGE***

- The publishing and copyright of Psalm 124, belongs to the Lord—and the Lord’s musician, warrior, writer, and King, David—the man whose life is a walking testimony of what it means to have the Lord on your side!
- It is written, of course, about Israel—a people whose history and existence can only be explained by the fact that—“The Lord Was On Their Side!”
- The inscription—or subscript assigned to this song and Psalm—describes it as a song and Psalm of ascent—a song of degree—a song of going up!

- The Hebrew Pilgrims would sing this hymn of praise—as they caravanned up to the city of Jerusalem—for one of the Holy Feasts;
- The song served as a call to worship to remind them that God is worthy to be praised—BECAUSE of what God has kept them from—and brought them through!
- And for that matter—this song has been used in Christian liturgy throughout church history;
- Saints sing this song in praise to God who has redeemed us by the debt-canceling—guilt-atoning—and life-changing death of the Lord Jesus Christ on the Cross;
- The foundation of this song of praise is constructed on the assertion that—“GOD TAKES SIDES!”
- God is not obligated to take sides—BECAUSE—ultimately God does not take sides—BECAUSE—when God steps in—God takes over!

- HOWEVER—in God’s own time—in God’s own way—by God’s own choosing—the psalmist asserts that God intervenes on behalf of those that trust God when they’re under attack by overwhelming circumstances;
- Psalm 124 celebrates the fact that having God on your side makes all the difference in the world;

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***HOW SHOULD WE RESPOND WHEN THE LORD IS ON OUR SIDE?***

***1.#1—“We Should REMEMBER The Lord!”***

- Psalm 124 teaches that there are moments when it’s been beneficial to take a panoramic view of the landscape of our lives—to look back over the way we have journeyed—and ask ourselves—“Where would I be today—if the Lord had not been on my side.

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**2. “People are a problem—BUT—they’re not our biggest problem! –  
Ephesians 6:12**

**3. The Psalmist says that we should respond to God by remembering—  
AND—#2—“To REJOICE in the Lord—who was on your side! – Psalm  
124:6**

- **Psalm 118:23**

**4. There are times when God will permit the trapper to trap successfully—but  
the trapper doesn’t have the last word! - Psalm 124:7**

- **BECAUSE—WHEN GOD IS ON YOUR SIDE—ESCAPE IS ALWAYS  
POSSIBLE!**

- The trap maybe your condition—BUT—it does not have to be your  
conclusion!

- Your failure need not be final—you can escape by the grace of God!

**5. “We Must REMEMBER, REJOICE, AND #3—RELY On The Lord who is on our side!” Psalm 124:8**

*Psalm 46, Verse 1, Says*—“God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble!

*In Psalm 118, Verse 13, the Psalmist Says*—“The Lord helped me!”

*Psalm 121, Verse 1, Says*—“ I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. <sup>2</sup> My help cometh from the LORD, which made heaven and earth.

- ALL the help you need—is in the name of the Lord!

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## *Two Reasons Why We Should Look To God For Help*

- *1<sup>st</sup>—God is the only and ultimate source of help you have!*

*In our text—in Psalm 124, Verse 8—the Psalmist says that our help is in the name—singular—of the Lord!*

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- *2<sup>ND</sup>—“GOD is the only source of help that you need!”*

*Proverbs 18:10: “The name of the Lord is a strong tower—the righteous run to it—and they are saved!”*