

Psalms of Ascent, part 5

Psalms 124 “God is our help, He is our hope and good news!”

Is there any good news? Is there hope? Where are you placing your hope?

Psalms 124 NLT

Psalms of Ascent are songs that were used by Jewish pilgrims as they made their way to Jerusalem for the three annual festivals/celebrations of Passover, of Pentecost, and of the Tabernacle.

The themes of these songs can help us on our journey. They can help us press on when we grow tired. They can inspire us when we are tempted or feel discouraged.

The Psalms have been called the prayers and praise of the people. Through the centuries, the Psalms have given voice to the voiceless, prayers to the prayerless, and hope to the hopeless. Where the rest of the Bible is seen as the voice of God, the Psalms are the voices of people “with” God.

God is our ultimate help, He is our hope, He is good news!

John 14:6-7

1 Corinthians 15:1-2 NLT

1 Corinthians 15:3-7 NLT

1 Corinthians 15:20-28 NLT

The term gospel/good news was a political term long before it was used by Christians.

There is a reason that Jesus was put to death by the Roman Empire. The problem with Rome (which has been a problem for all empires) is that Rome was “for” Rome and Romans. Good news if you are Roman.

Jesus introduced a new hope, a new gospel, the kingdom of God!

You can be a part of this story, and you can be a part of the kingdom of God living out the values of His eternal kingdom!

And here we are a thousand years later, different time, different continent, so much different... but at the same time so much the same. Underneath that thin veneer of America and the West is a whole lot of disillusionment and disappointment...

Then there is the gospel of Jesus: The Gospel of true Hope and Help!

“That is the hope. Not that we leave this world but that Jesus transforms it and us with it!”
NT Wright, *Simply Good News*

Which gospel are you believing?

Where are you placing your hope?

Practice and Application:(Training over trying harder)

1. Pay attention to your feelings...journaling
2. Wait on God
3. Let the old birth the new

Lamentations 3:25-26 NIV