

Singing the Songs of Ascent

The Lord our Keeper

Second Lent Reflection: **Psalm 121**

March 1, 2020

Highland's Lenten Journey

Introducing the Psalms of Ascent: a pilgrimage from sorrow toward joy

Individual and corporate practices

Journey symbols

Psalm 121

Keeper, keep: repeated six times

Guarding, watching over, observing

The rich promises of God's watchful care over His children

Confidence, courage, hope

The tension of God's promises in light of the reality we experience

Keep us from all evil? (verse 7) Really?

Every Biblical character's story

In this world you will have tribulation, but take heart, I have overcome the world: **John 16:33**

Do not take them out of the world, but keep them from the evil one: **John 17:15; 2 Thess 3:5; Matt 6:13**

The example of Noah: **2 Peter 2:5**

God's Keeping as a Coat

A coat assumes being in the conditions

Preserves but doesn't mitigate all effects

1 Corinthians 10:13 temptation/trial

But such as is common to all

God is faithful: Beyond what you are able

With the temptation/trial: A way of escape (a way out from where you are)

To Be able to stand up under it

Living Beyond Fear

We cannot know the thing before we get there

We do not know the resources we will find until we are there

I will never leave you: the unequivocal promise

The power of the presence of One Who has overcome the world!
