

May 26 Answers

- 1) The rest of the “Song of Ascents” psalms. These songs were likely sung by those who traveled up the mountain to Jerusalem for the three annual festivals. These psalms are pilgrim songs, songs which express anticipation and joy at the thought of worshipping you. The collection begins with Psalm 120, a psalm which recounts the author’s weariness of dwelling among deceitful people: those who “hate **peace**” and “are for **war**” (Ps 120:6–7). The psalmist called out to God in his trouble, and God answered him. How comforting to know that God **hears** us when we cry to Him! Psalm 121 is an encouraging answer to the question, “From where does my help come? My help comes from the **LORD**, who made heaven and earth. He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not **slumber**. Behold, he who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep” (Ps 121:1b–4). Psalm 123 echoes this thought and builds on the theme of focusing our eyes on God: “To you I lift up my **eyes**, O you who are enthroned in the heavens! Behold, as the eyes of servants look to the hand of their master, as the eyes of a maidservant to the hand of her mistress, so our eyes look to the LORD our God, till he has mercy upon us” (Ps 123:1–2). These psalms teach us the importance of **lifting** up our eyes from the cares and trials of life and **focusing** our hearts and minds on God. Like Peter on the Sea of Galilee, if we keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, we can walk on the waters which seek to drown our souls.