

## Songs of Ascents – Part 2

### *Psalm 125 “the Lord surrounds his people...”*

- <sup>1</sup> Those who trust in the LORD are like Mount Zion,  
which cannot be moved, but abides forever.
- <sup>2</sup> As the mountains surround Jerusalem,  
so the LORD surrounds his people,  
from this time forth and forevermore.
- <sup>3</sup> For the sceptre of wickedness shall not rest  
on the land allotted to the righteous,  
lest the righteous stretch out  
their hands to do wrong.
- <sup>4</sup> Do good, O LORD, to those who are good,  
and to those who are upright in their hearts!
- <sup>5</sup> But those who turn aside to their crooked ways  
the LORD will lead away with evildoers!  
Peace be upon Israel!

### *Psalm 126: “Restore our fortunes, O Lord...”*

- <sup>1</sup> When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,  
we were like those who dream.
- <sup>2</sup> Then our mouth was filled with laughter,  
and our tongue with shouts of joy;  
then they said among the nations,  
“The LORD has done great things for them.”
- <sup>3</sup> The Lord has done great things for us;  
we are glad.
- <sup>4</sup> Restore our fortunes, O LORD,  
like streams in the Negeb!
- <sup>5</sup> Those who sow in tears  
shall reap with shouts of joy!
- <sup>6</sup> He who goes out weeping,

bearing the seed for sowing,  
shall come home with shouts of joy,  
bringing his sheaves with him.

***Psalm 127: “Unless the Lord builds the house...”***

- <sup>1</sup> Unless the LORD builds the house,  
those who build it labour in vain.  
Unless the LORD watches over the city,  
the watchman stays awake in vain.
- <sup>2</sup> It is in vain that you rise up early  
and go late to rest,  
eating the bread of anxious toil;  
for he gives to his beloved sleep.
- <sup>3</sup> Behold, children are a heritage from the LORD,  
the fruit of the womb a reward.
- <sup>4</sup> Like arrows in the hand of a warrior  
are the children of one's youth.
- <sup>5</sup> Blessed is the man  
who fills his quiver with them!  
He shall not be put to shame  
when he speaks with his enemies in the gate.

***Psalm 128: “Blessed is everyone who fears the Lord...”***

- <sup>1</sup> Blessed is everyone who fears the LORD,  
who walks in his ways!
- <sup>2</sup> You shall eat the fruit of the labour of your hands;  
you shall be blessed, and it shall be well with you.
- <sup>3</sup> Your wife will be like a fruitful vine  
within your house;  
your children will be like olive shoots  
around your table.
- <sup>4</sup> Behold, thus shall the man be blessed  
who fears the LORD.

5 The LORD bless you from Zion!  
May you see the prosperity of Jerusalem  
all the days of your life!

6 May you see your children's children!  
Peace be upon Israel.

***Psalm 129: “We bless you in the name of the Lord...”***

1 “Greatly have they afflicted me from my youth”—  
let Israel now say—

2 “Greatly have they afflicted me from my youth,  
yet they have not prevailed against me.

3 The ploughers ploughed upon my back;  
they made long their furrows.”

4 The LORD is righteous;  
he has cut the cords of the wicked.

5 May all who hate Zion  
be put to shame and turned backward!

6 Let them be like the grass on the housetops,  
which withers before it grows up,  
7 with which the reaper does not fill his hand  
nor the binder of sheaves his arms,  
8 nor do those who pass by say,  
“The blessing of the LORD be upon you!  
We bless you in the name of the LORD!”

## Cross References

### Deuteronomy 33 v 27:

The eternal God is your dwelling place,  
and underneath are the everlasting arms.

**2 Corinthians 9 v 6:** The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.

**James 5 v 7:** Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains.

**1 Corinthians 15 v 58:** Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labour is not in vain.

### Hosea 11 v 1:

When Israel was a child, I loved him,  
and out of Egypt I called my son.

### Isaiah 53 v 4 to 6:

Surely he has borne our griefs  
and carried our sorrows;  
yet we esteemed him stricken,  
smitten by God, and afflicted.

<sup>5</sup> But he was pierced for our transgressions;  
he was crushed for our iniquities;  
upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace,  
and with his wounds we are healed.

<sup>6</sup> All we like sheep have gone astray;  
we have turned—every one—to his own way;  
and the LORD has laid on him  
the iniquity of us all.

**Ruth 2 v 4:** And behold, Boaz came from Bethlehem. And he said to the reapers, “The LORD be with you!” And they answered, “The LORD bless you.”