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76/I/PM

Prayer Meeting Address by Mr. J. Delves at "Ebenezer", Clapham
on Saturday evening, 9th. October, 1976

Hymns 349, 133

Reading: Psalms 121 and 122

The first Psalm, Psalm 121 is the language of a praying man, "I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills from whence cometh my help", not the South Downs, but to that God Who is above all the hills and mountains, Who is above every mountain that you may have in your heart, or in your circumstances or in your future, whatever it may be. It is a wonderful mercy, dear friends, to feel that the God of heaven is accessible, that He will be sought unto by poor needy sinners. "I will lift up mine eyes". He knew where to look and where his help must come from. "My help cometh from the Lord which made heaven and earth". He is not a Lord that slumbers and sleeps and does not notice or realise the needs of His people. "The Lord is thy keeper; the Lord is thy shade upon thy right hand", nothing can harm thee - "The sun shall not smite thee by day, nor the moon by night. The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil; He shall preserve thy soul. The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth, and even for evermore". The Psalm is experimental, it is the Psalm of a living soul who knew his God, Who had appeared for him before. I will lift up mine eyes unto this God. Sometimes you may come into trials and difficulties in your life, and what can you do with them but lift up your eyes unto this God Who has guided and delivered and proved Himself to be an all-sufficient God.

These Psalms are very beautiful. The Psalmist was a lover of the worship of God. "I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord. Our feet shall stand within thy gates, O Jerusalem". Beautiful language, this is where we love to be, it is the heavenly Jerusalem that we have in view. "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem; they shall prosper that love Thee". That is,

the blessing of the Lord will rest upon them and be with them in their providences, in their trials and afflictions and what ever may come upon them. What a wonderful thing it is to have a God to go to with our difficulties, trials, hard things, mysterious things, sometimes painful things. This is the privilege of the Lord's people. They have communion with Him, they take their troubles there, they lay them before this God that made heaven and earth. Nothing is too hard for Him. "Unto thee lift I up mine eyes, O thou that dwellest in the heavens". What a mercy it is to have some reality in our religion, to have a religion in which there is some communion with this God in our quiet moments, in the silent watches of the night, sometimes to hear that still, small voice. May the Lord grant it to us, bless our souls this night in our gathering together to wait on Him. Amen.