

1-21-2024. January 21, 2024  
GGPC Sunday Worship  
Rev. Eun Suk Cho, Pastor

Pastoral Prayer. 목회기도

On that day, the Lord their God will save them, as the flock of his people; for like the jewels of a crown, they shall shine on his land.

이 날에 그들의 하나님 여호와께서 그들을 자기 백성의 양 떼같이 구원하시리니, 그들이 왕관의 보석같이 여호와의 땅에 빛나리로다.

Zechariah 스가랴 9:16

Dear Father God, we thank you for all the blessings. We believe in you, and all the words coming out of you that you will save us in the name of Jesus Christ, your Son. You promised us that you will make us like the jewels of a crown, shining on our land. We want to serve you, living as the salt and the light of the world. Help us, O Lord! In Jesus' name, Amen.

YHWH IS MY HELP  
Psalm 94:17

If the LORD had not been my help, my soul would soon have lived in the land of silence.

Psalm 94:17

Hallelujah!

Psalm 94 is a psalm written by an unknown poet. The theme is God's salvation from hands of the wicked ones.

They do not care the weak people. They kill widows and sojourners. They destroy orphans.

They think YHWH does not see. He never perceives. In other words, they think YHWH is dead.

There is no justice in their ways. They do not trust in God.

Accordingly, they do all the bad things against the poet. He could have found NO help from the wicked ones.

Who rises up for me against the wicked? Who stands up for mee against evildoers?

Psalm 94:16

No one he could have found among the humans.

But he recognized that YHWH is his Help. He looked up the heavens.

Let us take a look a man, who was surrounded by enemies, put to the point of death. But God helped and saved his life. Not only his life, but the nation Israel, that he wanted to save. His name is Moses.

He had two sons. The first he named "Gershom," coming from "ger," which means "sojourner." Because he said, "I have been sojourner in a foreign land" (Exodus 2:22c).

The second son's name was "Eliezer," which means "my God is Help."

And the name of the other, Eliezer (for he said, "the God of my father was my help, and delivered me from the sword of Pharaoh").

Exodus 18:4

Out of all the enemies, Pharaoh was the most difficult one. YHWH God saved Moses from the hand of Pharaoh. And Moses named his second son Eliezer.

Abraham had a servant from Damascus, whose name was Eliezer.

But Abraham said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damscus?" And Abraham said, "Behold, you have given no offspring, and a member of my household will be my heir." Genesis 15:2-3

Abraham was a man of suffering. When he was called by God, he was seventy five years old, a childless old man. It was only when he was one hundred years old when he had a son from his wife Sarah.

He had a son, Ishmael, when he was eighty six years old. But Ishmael was a son of Hagar, a maidservant of Sarah. Upon the birth of Ishmael, the family was not happy at all.

We review Moses and Abraham, how God helped them.

One of the Songs of Ascents, Psalms 120-134, is Psalm 121.

I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come? My help comes from the YHWH, 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. YHWH is your keeper; YHWH is your shade on your right hand. The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night. YHWH will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life. YHWH will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forevermore. Amen.

Psalm 121:1-8

In the psalm, we find who is YHWH, the Help. Let us recite the Scripture given to us today from Psalm 94 again.

If the LORD had not been my help, my soul would soon have lived in the land of silence.

Psalm 94:17

Brothers and sisters.

We are living in the world of conflicts, troubles, uncertainties, by diseases, by wars, by social stratification. We all need help. The help we need is not a partial remedy or remodeling but a total salvation by re-Creation.

We thank God that God is the Help. He is with us! Immanuel! Hallelujah!

But we ask: where does the help come? As Psalm 121 says, it comes from YHWH, who created the heavens and the earth, in the beginning.

The help would be for all of us the new-Creation.

Behold, I am doing a new thing. Now it springs forth. Do you not perceive it?  
I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.  
Isaiah 43:19

1. Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more.
  2. And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.
  3. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God.
  4. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."
  5. And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true."
  6. And he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment.
  7. The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son.
  8. But as for the cowardly, the faithless, the detestable, as for murderers, the sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars, their portion will be in the lake that burns with fire and sulfur, which is the second death."
- Revelation 21:1-8.

What we need to have now is the faith. We need to have the faith, believing in God. Listen to Jesus.

Let not your heart be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way to where I am going.  
John 14:1-4.

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

John 14:6

This is our hope for the help, which is the salvation. Jesus saves! Amen.

We have the name of Jesus. The year 2024 is given to us as hope. Even if still found many troubles, we shall not let ourselves be troubled, as Jesus commanded. We shall believe in Jesus, as well as we believe in God. Amen.

Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and the perfecter of our faith!

Hebrews 12:1.

Let us not to pay attention to the worldly matters, but Jesus. In Jesus We shall be saved.

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

John 3:16.

If you believe in Jesus, you may be a small help to your people living together. You may preach the name Jesus. It will be a little but important help to them. With the help, they may come into Jesus, the Help. Amen.

Prayer:

Heavenly Father. We thank you for giving us Jesus. Let us believe in God and Jesus by the Holy Spirit. And let us preach the good news to the all nations unreached. In Jesus' name, Amen.