

## Daily Encouragement – Friday 7<sup>th</sup> August

### Psalm 120

The first of a group of Psalms called 'Songs of Ascent', probably sung at the feast of tabernacles. This was a reminder of the time when God travelled with his people through the wilderness. We think too of the time when God became man and dwelt with us. And also of the wonderful way he dwells in the hearts of believers and travels with us through the wilderness of this world. One day we will go to the dwelling place he has prepared in his father's house!

1 I call on the Lord in my distress,  
and he answers me.  
2 Save me, Lord,  
from lying lips  
and from deceitful tongues.

The Songs of Ascents start with our need, here in this Psalm, then move to looking to him in dependence and adoration, finishing up in Psalm 134 in the sanctuary.

3 What will he do to you,  
and what more besides,  
you deceitful tongue?  
4 He will punish you with a warrior's sharp arrows,  
with burning coals of the broom bush.

5 Woe to me that I dwell in Meshek, on the shores of the Black Sea  
that I live among the tents of Kedar! the land to the south  
So, basically, anywhere in this world!

6 Too long have I lived  
among those who hate peace.  
7 I am for peace;  
but when I speak, they are for war.

We are aliens and strangers in this world. But wherever we live, the Heavenly Jerusalem is our home. We travel with God by our side, a certain help and companion, towards our real home.

Gordon

[This world is not my home, I'm just a-passing through](#)