

**Elder: Cedric Lebrun** 

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#### **MORNING READING**

# Psalm 121- New King James Version A Song of Ascents

- 1 I will lift up my eyes to the hills— From whence comes my help?
- 2 My help comes from the LORD, Who made heaven and earth.
- 3 He will not allow your foot to [a]be moved;
- He who keeps you will not slumber.

- 4 Behold, He who keeps Israel Shall neither slumber nor sleep.
- 5 The LORD is your [b]keeper; The LORD is your shade at your right hand.
- 6 The sun shall not strike you by day, Nor the moon by night.
- 7 The LORD shall [c]preserve you from all evil; He shall preserve your soul.
- 8 The LORD shall preserve[d] your going out and your coming in From this time forth, and even forevermore.

#### **MAIN READING**

- 1 Chronicles 10: 1-14 Saul Takes His Life
- 1 Now the Philistines fought against Israel; the Israelites fled before them, and many fell dead on Mount Gilboa. 2 The Philistines were in hot pursuit of Saul and his sons, and they killed his sons Jonathan, Abinadab and Malki-Shua.
- 3 The fighting grew fierce around Saul, and when the archers overtook him, they wounded him.

- 4 Saul said to his armor-bearer, "Draw your sword and run me through, or these uncircumcised fellows will come and abuse me."
- But his armor-bearer was terrified and would not do it; so Saul took his own sword and fell on it. 5 When the armorbearer saw that Saul was dead, he too fell on his sword and died. 6 So Saul and his three sons died, and all his house died together.

- 7 When all the Israelites in the valley saw that the army had fled and that Saul and his sons had died, they abandoned their towns and fled. And the Philistines came and occupied them.
- 8 The next day, when the Philistines came to strip the dead, they found Saul and his sons fallen on Mount Gilboa.
- 9 They stripped him and took his head and his armor, and sent messengers throughout the land of the Philistines to

- proclaim the news among their idols and their people. 10 They put his armor in the temple of their gods and hung up his head in the temple of Dagon.
- 11 When all the inhabitants of Jabesh Gilead heard what the Philistines had done to Saul, 12 all their valiant men went and took the bodies of Saul and his sons and brought them to Jabesh. Then they buried their bones under the great tree in Jabesh, and they fasted seven days.

\*\*\* 13 Saul died because he was unfaithful to the LORD; he did not keep the word of the LORD and even consulted a medium for guidance, 14 and did not inquire of the LORD. So the LORD put him to death and turned the kingdom over to David son of Jesse.

## **David Becomes King Over Israel**

- 1 Chronicles 11: 1-9
- 1 All Israel came together to David at Hebron and said, "We are your own flesh and blood. 2 In the past, even while Saul was king, you were the one who led Israel on their military campaigns. And the LORD your God said to you, 'You will shepherd my people Israel, and you will become their ruler."

3 When all the elders of Israel had come to King David at Hebron, he made a covenant with them at Hebron before the LORD, and they anointed David king over Israel, as the LORD had promised through Samuel.

### **David Conquers Jerusalem**

4 David and all the Israelites marched to Jerusalem (that is, Jebus). The Jebusites who lived there 5 said to David, "You will not get in here." Nevertheless, David captured the fortress of Zion—which is the City of David. 6 David had said, "Whoever leads the attack on the Jebusites will become commander-inchief." Joab son of Zeruiah went up first, and so he received the command.

7 David then took up residence in the fortress, and so it was called the City of David. 8 He built up the city around it, from the terraces[a] to the surrounding wall, while Joab restored the rest of the city. 9 And David became more and more powerful, because the LORD Almighty was with him.



