

## Psalm 123

# Patience under pressure

*I'm living in Hallelujah land  
I'm living where everything is grand  
Where the healing waters flow  
Where I'll never older grow*

*Yes, I'm living (living, living, living, living) in Hallelujah land*

A person is silhouetted against a bright, hazy landscape of rugged mountains and a valley, viewed through the arched opening of a cave. The cave's interior is dark, with some stalactites hanging from the ceiling. The person stands with their back to the viewer, looking out over the vast, sunlit landscape. The mountains are layered, with some peaks appearing more prominent than others. The sky is filled with soft, white clouds, suggesting a bright but slightly overcast day. The overall mood is one of contemplation and awe.

# SONGS OF ASCENTS

PSALMS 120-134 SCRIPTURE SONGS

# Psalm 122:1

I rejoiced with those who said to me,  
‘Let us go to the house of the Lord.’

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*You're In Room Eight* performed with permission from Stagescripts Ltd.

# Psalm 123:4

We have endured no end of ridicule  
from the arrogant,  
of contempt from the proud.

# Psalm 123:2

... our eyes look **to** the LORD our  
God, till he shows us his mercy.

## Psalm 123

# Patience under pressure



# Psalm 121:1

I lift up my eyes to the mountains –  
where does my help come from?

# Psalm 123:1

I lift up my eyes to you, ...

(NIV)

# Psalm 123:1

I lift up my eyes to you, ...

(NIV)

To you I lift up my eyes, ...

(ESV)

# Psalm 123:1

I lift up my eyes to you,  
to you who sit enthroned in heaven.



# Psalm 123:1

I lift up my eyes to you,  
to you who sit enthroned in heaven.

= ?

I **strain my eyes to see** you,  
you who sit enthroned in heaven.

# Psalm 123:2

As the eyes of slaves look to the  
hand of their master,  
as the eyes of a female slave look to  
the hand of her mistress,  
so our eyes look  
to the LORD our God, ...

# Psalm 123:1

I lift up my eyes to you,  
to you who sit enthroned in heaven.



# Matthew 6:9

‘This, then, is how you should pray:

“Our Father in heaven, ...”



# Psalm 123:1

I lift up my eyes to you,  
to you who sit enthroned in heaven.

# Psalm 123:2

As the eyes of slaves look to the  
hand of their master,  
as the eyes of a female slave look to  
the hand of her mistress,  
so our eyes look  
to the LORD our God, ...



# Psalm 123:2

so our eyes look to the LORD our God,  
till he shows us his mercy.

What does “mercy” mean here?

# Psalm 123:3

Have mercy on us, LORD,  
have mercy on us, ...



# Matthew 6:7

‘And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words.’

# Psalm 123:2-3

... so our eyes look to the LORD our God,  
till he shows us his **mercy**.

Have **mercy** on us, LORD,  
have **mercy** on us, ...

# Psalm 123:3-4

... for we have endured no end of contempt.

We have endured no end  
of ridicule from the arrogant,  
of contempt from the proud.

# 1 Corinthians 1:26-27

Brothers and sisters, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth. But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the **weak** things of the world to shame the strong.

# 1 Corinthians 1:28-29

God **chose** the lowly things of this world and the despised things – and the things that are not – to nullify the things that are, so that no one may boast before him.

# Romans 12:15

Rejoice with those who rejoice;  
mourn with those who mourn.

# Psalm 123:3-4

... for we have endured no end of contempt.

We have endured no end  
of ridicule from the arrogant,  
of contempt from the proud.

# Romans 12:14-15

Bless **those who persecute you**;  
bless and do not curse. Rejoice with  
those who rejoice; mourn with those  
who mourn.



# Psalm 123:3-4

... for we have endured no end of contempt.

We have endured no end  
of ridicule from the arrogant,  
of contempt from the proud.

# Psalm 123:1-2

I lift up my eyes to you,  
to you who sit enthroned in heaven.  
... our eyes look to the LORD our God,  
till he shows us his mercy.

# Hebrews 12:2-3

... **fixing our eyes on Jesus**, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy that was set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. **Consider him** who endured such opposition from sinners, **so that you** will not grow weary and lose heart.

# Psalm 123:1-2

I lift up my eyes to you,  
to you who sit enthroned in heaven.  
As the eyes of slaves look to the hand of their master,  
as the eyes of a female slave look to  
the hand of her mistress,  
so our eyes look to the LORD our God,  
till he shows us his mercy.

# Hebrews 4:15-16

For we do not have a high priest who is unable to feel sympathy for our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are – yet he did not sin.

Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive **mercy** and find grace to help us in our time of need.

