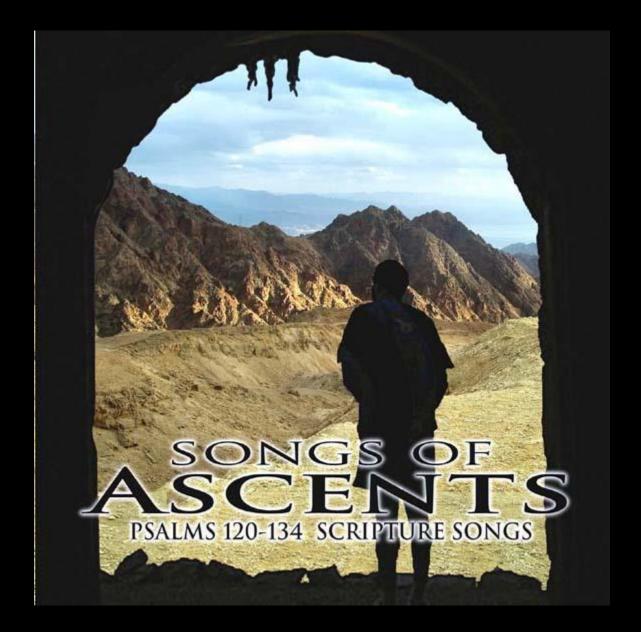
Psalm 123

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) in Hallelujah land



Psalm 122:1

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





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

... 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?

I lift up my eyes to you, ...

(NIV)

I lift up my eyes to you, ...

(NIV)

To you I lift up my eyes, ...

(ESV)

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



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.

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, ...

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, ..."



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, ...



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

What does "mercy" mean here?

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.'

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

... 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.

... 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.

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

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.

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.