

A large, leafy tree stands in a field of tall grass. The sun is low in the sky, creating a warm, golden glow that filters through the leaves. The text is overlaid on the scene.

The Psalms

*Songs and Prayers
of Worship*

Summer Sermon Series



The Psalms

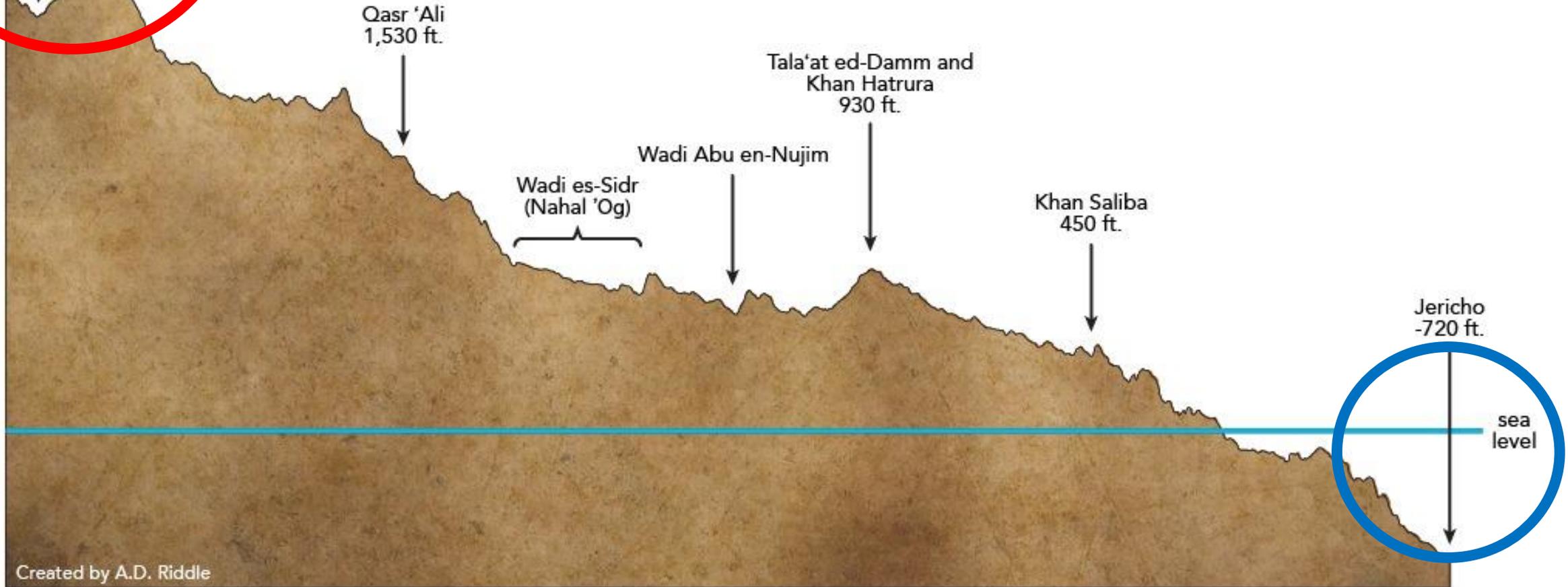
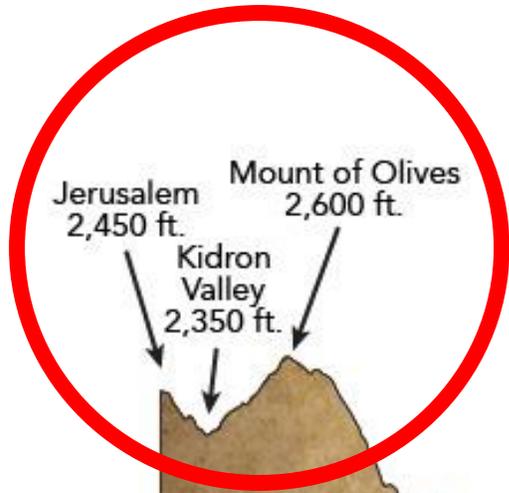
*Songs and Prayers
of Worship*

Psalm 124

Praising God for His Perfect Rest

“A Song of Ascents”

(Psalms of Ascent: Ps. 120-134)



Structure and Exposition

- I. Israel credits the LORD
for her **safety**. (124:1-5)

Structure and Exposition

- 1 If it had not been the LORD
who was on our side—
let Israel now say—
- 2 If it had not been the LORD
who was on our side
when **people** rose up against us,

Structure and Exposition

- 2b when **people** rose up against us,
3 then **they** would have swallowed us up alive
when **their anger** was kindled against us;
4 then **the flood** would have swept us away,
the torrent would have gone over us;
5 then over us would have gone
the raging waters.

Structure and Exposition

**II. Israel blesses the LORD
for her freedom. (124:6-7)**

Structure and Exposition

- 6 Blessed by the name of the LORD
who has not given us as prey to their teeth!
- 7 We have escaped like a bird
from the snare of the fowlers;
the snare is broken,
[and] we have escaped!

Structure and Exposition

**III. Israel trusts in the LORD
for her **help**. (124:8)**

Structure and Exposition

- 8 Our help is in the name of the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.

BIG IDEA:

Bless the LORD
for His perfect salvation.

*Three reasons why
we must bless the LORD
for His perfect salvation:*

- 1. God's salvation gives us
the perfect safety that
we need.**

Question

**Who do you look to,
or where do you look,
for your *ultimate* safety?**

Observations

**Only the LORD
offers *perfect* safety
from the fury and
destruction of sin.**

BIG IDEA:

Bless the LORD
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*Three reasons why
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- 2. God's salvation gives us
the perfect freedom that
we need.**

Question

**Who do you look to,
or where do you look,
for your *ultimate* freedom?**

Observations

**Only the LORD
offers *perfect* freedom
from the power
and curse of sin.**

*Three reasons why
we must bless the LORD
for His perfect salvation:*

- 3. God's salvation gives us
the perfect help that
we need.**

Question

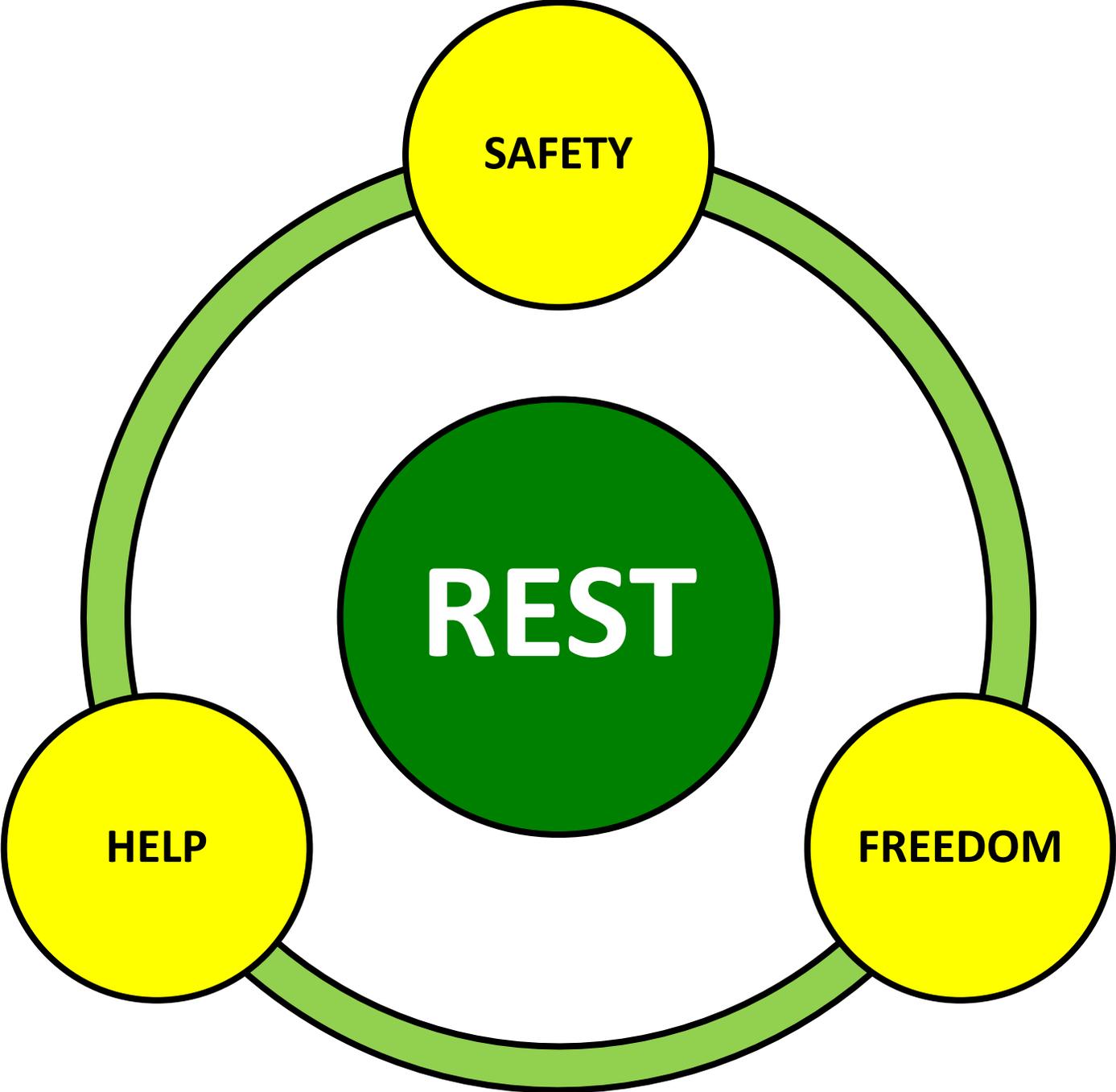
**Who do you look to,
or where do you look,
for your *ultimate* help?**

Observations

**Only the LORD
offers *perfect* help
through all
of life's complexities.**

BIG IDEA:

Bless the LORD
for His perfect salvation.



**“Stayed upon Jehovah,
hearts are fully blest
Finding, as He promised,
perfect peace and rest.”**

Francis R. Havergal (1876)

Application:

*Come and find perfect rest
through genuine faith
in Christ Jesus.*

Matthew 11:28-30

28 “Come to Me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

29 Take My yoke upon you, and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

30 For My yoke is easy, and My burden is light.”

- Jesus clarifies His invitation with **two commands**.
“Come to Me” = “**Take** My yoke upon you”
+
“**Learn** of Me”
- Jesus clarifies the “**rest**” that He offers in verse 28 as “**rest for your souls**” in verse 29.
- This **rest** that Jesus promises **is conditional** on the acceptance of His invitation to come to Him *through* obedience to His **commands**.

John 3:16-18

16 For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.

17 For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through Him.

John 3:16-18

18 Whoever believes in Him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

Application:

*Come and find perfect rest
through genuine faith
in Christ Jesus.*

BIG IDEA:

Bless the LORD
for His perfect salvation.