



The Caller

A Weekly Newsletter of the Elizabethtown church of Christ
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Confidence Corner

In this week's *Confidence*

Corner we want to examine a thought from Psalm 129:4. I will be preaching Sunday from Psalm 130 and in my study found something in Psalm 129 that I wanted to

share with you. In the Psalm, Israel reveals that as a nation they have faced ill-treatment often. The psalm notes that from early in their inception as a nation, other nations have treated them badly many times but they have never defeated Israel.

What I want to share this week is the imagery provided of what the LORD has done for His people. In verse 4 the psalmist declares that the LORD does what is right. The psalmist notes that the LORD has set them free from the evil people. Interestingly enough the Hebrew text would more literally be translated, "He has cut the ropes of the evil people in two."

By God's grace, the nation of Israel had survived for centuries in the midst of a very hostile world. God was with them. Likewise, God will be with the Israel of today--the Church. Think of the many assaults on the Christian faith. Watch just a few commercials and you will see clearly that we live in a world hostile to God and favorable to the practice of sin.

Evil people today think they are making great progress in changing this world. Perhaps an argument could be made that such is the case, but God is still in control. No matter how much a movement can convince people to think that good is evil and evil is good, the standard is not altered. God is the ultimate authority. In the end, if not before, He will cut the ropes of the evil people in two.

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Why Jesus?

- 8 AM—Because Jesus Is THE King of Kings!
- 9 AM—Because We Need a New Start!
- 10AM—Because We Need an Example!
- 11AM—Because He Can Give Rest From Your Burdens!
- 12AM—Because We Need a Mediator!
- 1PM—Because He's More Than a Baby!
- 2PM—Because Jesus Is the Light of the World!
- 3PM—Because We Need a Sacrifice!
- 4PM—Because He Has All Authority!
- 5PM—Because He Built the Church!
- 6PM—Because He Is The Way, Truth, & Life!
- 7PM—Because He Is God!

12 Hours of Jesus

Saturday, December 28, 2019
Pritchard Community Center
Elizabethtown KY

Sunday's Sermons:

- A. M. — *Out of the Depths*
Psalm 130:1-3
- P. M. — *Hope in the Lord*
Psalm 130:4-8

How Much Sleep Do You Lose?

One thing that has always been a blessing to me has been the ability to have great sleep. I might stay up later than I should. I might have a lot on my mind. My mind may race through the day as I consider what is before me, but when I pray and pillow my head at night, there is very little time that passes before I am sleeping.

Of course for Brenna and the girls they often tease that if something happened in the middle of the night, I would sleep right through it. They very well could be correct. I have had our house alarm go off and I not even know it. I am aware that there are many who suffer from sleep deprivation so I do count sleep a blessing. I am not certain exactly what to mark as the reason for my good fortune. I'd like to think that it stems from my trust in God. I cannot say for sure regarding my life but I can share with you a principle that is found in Scripture that is absolutely true. That principle is that one must trust in God and not think that somehow their own strength or effort alone will result in peace.

In Psalm 127 Solomon writes that If the LORD does not build the house, the builders are wasting their time. He also notes that if the LORD does not guard the city, it is pointless for guards to stay awake at night. Then in verse 2, Solomon notes that God gives sleep to those He loves. Solomon must have enjoyed the blessing of sleep. If you recall, Nathan the prophet gave Solomon the name Jedudah (meaning Yah's beloved one). He taught Solomon that to stay up late or rise early in an attempt to bring about change in their life, WITHOUT ALSO TRUSTING GOD, was futile.

Sometimes people lose sleep because they fail to trust God. I am not saying that is always the cause of a lack of sleep. Obviously, there are physical conditions and other elements that may lead to undesirable sleep patterns. Yet the first place a person may want to check if they begin losing sleep over worry is how is their faith and relationship with God (Romans 10:17; Prov. 3:5-6).

Sleep can be and is a great blessing from God. Along with prayer and meditation upon God's Word, as we prepare for sleep and waking to renewed mercies every day, it is one period of two different days that I have been blessed to be benefitted.

John F Board

Elizabethtown, KY