

SAR SHALOM ISRAEL

PSALM 121:1-4

I will raise my eyes to the mountains;

From where will my help come?

My help comes from the LORD,

Who made heaven and earth.

He will not allow your foot to slip;

He who watches over you will not slumber.

Behold, He who watches over Israel

Will neither slumber nor sleep.

Richard Smallwood, a noted, wonderful gospel composer, classical musician, went home to be with the Lord and his homecoming service was yesterday. They mentioned in the service that Richard Smallwood's favorite psalm was the above psalm. He penned the song "Total Praise," from this Psalm. From where does our help come? We are all travelers making pilgrimage from this life to the next. We know that we will get home safely, by lifting our eyes and trusting in the LORD.

I hope that you enjoy this rendition, Esa Einai.

[Total Praise in Hebrew](#)

The combined Choirs of the Delaware Valley and New Jersey regions of the Cantor's Assembly performing "Total Praise" by Richard Smallwood, Arr for the choir by Doreen Rao,

published by Boosey and Hawkes. Hebrew setting by Sheldon Levin.

Screenshot 2026-01-25 at 10.08.19 AM

BE'AD CHAIM - ISRAEL PRO-LIFE ORGANIZATION

It is an honor to bring support to Be'ad Chaim, Israel's Pro-life organization, overseen by Sandy Shoshani. Below she highlights the needs. Even as you read her content below, you are praying for her, for the staff, for the many needs of this beautiful, humble work of God in Israel.

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JESUS THE KING CHURCH, NAZARETH, ISRAEL

We love Pastor Saleem Shalash's work in Nazareth, Israel. He has been such a bridge to the Jewish people in his area, Nazareth, and Nof HaGalil.



Not only does Pastor Saleem have a great outreach among the community, he serves the underserved and poor here in Nazareth. Your support goes directly to his love work.

Aviv ministry outreach to the homeless, prostitutes and drug addicts.

Aviv Center has been working since 2005 in south Tel-Aviv and helping street addicts, alcoholics and prostitutes meet their basic needs like food and clothes. Their main purpose is to help these people get fully restored, return to normal life and to their families, become a blessing to others and bring good fruit. Only the Lord Jesus can really make all these changes in their lives. This is why your support helps this humble ministry.

God turns our mourning into joy.



We have been blessed to receive the talents of Ken Berg and Clayton Herring, who have produced these wonderful videos of our work in Israel. Here is the latest contribution,

[Mourning into Dancing](#)

2026 May charity trip update

We are blessed to have seven people signed up to come to Israel to serve in May 6-18, 2026. As we are a 501(c)(3) IRS approved, nonprofit charity, your donations of support receive a tax deductible receipt, if you so desire. Participants can come and raise their own funds. Nobody here at this charity earns a paycheck so all of us serve Yeshua with a beautiful heart. There is still room for you. The cost of the 10 day trip is \$2950. That includes the land portion, hotel hotels for 10 nights, breakfast and dinners and Transportation is also included. Airfare is not. Again, there is still room for you!

THOUGH I WALK IN DARKNESS

Who is among you that feareth the LORD, That obeyeth the voice of His servant?

Though he walketh in darkness, And hath no light,

Let him trust in the name of the LORD, and stay upon his God.

Isaiah 50:20 JPS

If we live long enough, each of us will encounter a “suddenly” in our life. It could be the death of a loved one, a divorce, a job loss, an unexpected illness. I remember when my father died suddenly. A friend encouraged me to do a Bible study on the word SUDDENLY. Comfort came as I realized unexpected challenges and darkness come upon everybody. At times, it seems as though heaven is silent, God is silent and answers do not come. Even though our faith encourages us to believe that God can change anything, He remains silent and does not speak in the midst of our pain. Recall 2 Kings 4:27 “And when she came to the man of God to the hill, she caught hold of his feet. And Gehazi came near to thrust her away; but the man of God said: 'Let her alone; for her soul is bitter within her; and the LORD HATH HID IT FROM ME and hath not told me.'” This woman had just experienced the death of her son, the son who had been promised by Elijah.

The Lord has hidden His ways. Who are we to say that God

should act on our behalf? Who are we to demand anything of God? Isaiah 55:8-9 notes "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways," declares the Lord. "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways And My thoughts than your thoughts." We presently see through a cloud, a veil, the dim glass. One day we will see and understand all things. However, suddenlies occur. Difficulties and disappointments are the way of life.

Why does the Teacher always have to be silent when we take a test? Why can't there be some word from heaven to ease our pain? Often, in the midst of darkness, I fail to see that I am going through a test. I cannot even identify the enemy, the culprit, the darkness that surrounds me. Yet the Teacher is silent when taking a test. It has to be this way.

God sees you. For the eyes of the Lord move to and fro throughout the earth that He may strongly support those whose heart is completely His." (2Chron. 16:9a) I don't want to fail any of the tests the God brings my way. Am I willing to trust Him? Am I willing to trust God in the dark?

2 Chron. 32:30 "It was Hezekiah who blocked the upper outlet of the Gihon spring and channeled the water down to the west side of the City of David."

On a past trip to Israel, our group took the opportunity to walk through Hezekiah's tunnel. This experience was one of the most memorable experiences of the tour. We descended down a few steps and entered a dark cave. Some had flashlights, but they were of little use. The entire journey occurred in darkness. The tunnel was just large enough for us to walk through; the tunnel was within inches of my head and on either side of my body. We felt our way along the path in total darkness. After about five minutes, I was tired of this journey. The footing was slippery and rocky. Water depth varied from inches to feet, I could feel the water level at my knees at times. How long had that water been there and how clean was it? The smell was at you would expect - stinky and rank. It was dark, dark, pitch black. If one used a flashlight, it was only to see more tunnel, and only good for a few steps ahead. We knew that the destination would take perhaps a

half-hour, but I lost all sense of time. All I knew was to keep walking forward, very carefully, feeling the sides of the tunnel as I walked. I knew eventually we would reach the destination.

Some people sang; others chatted; then silence. We kept walking. It seems as though those in front of us got way ahead of us. At times, those behind us lagged way far away. I had to work at not being fearful. I had to dispel any thoughts from my mind that I would not make it. I had to not think about what was lurking in the stagnant water. I had to trust God. Yet, after perhaps thirty or forty minutes, we ended up at the Pool of Siloam.

The man born blind went and washed there, per Yeshua Jesus' instructions, and he was healed (John 9:1-12). During the last day of Sukkot, the Feast of Tabernacles, water was drawn from Siloam. Yeshua Jesus referred to this in John 7:37-38 when He said, "If any man thirst, let him come to Me and drink...he who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, 'From his inmost being shall flow rivers of living water.'" Siloam-- the place of miracles and blessing.

Sometimes God leads us into a dark place. He asks that we will trust Him as we walk through the valley of darkness, through the valley of the shadow of death. Proverbs 3:5 states "trust the Lord with all your heart and lean not to your own understanding." If we lean on our own understanding, it is as if we are leaning on a broken crutch. We have no ability to remain upright, let alone progress forward.

It is God who clothes the heavens with blackness (Isaiah 50:3). God created evening and morning, the first day. Evening, in God's economy, comes before the morning (Genesis 1:3, 6,9,14,20,24,31). God's word makes note "then I will give you the treasures of darkness and hidden wealth of secret places, so that you may know that it is I, The Lord, the God of Israel, who calls you by your name." (Isaiah 45:3) I had the privilege one summer of staying with a lady who grew moon flowers. They happened to grow right outside of the bedroom window. I could not believe that such beautiful flowers bloomed only in the evening. God does give hidden treasures in darkness. Darkness might bring terrible

circumstances, but circumstances are temporary and they do not define us. We might plan our ways but God directs our steps (Prov. 16:9). He is an amazing football coach and life coach.

Sometimes we just have to go through the night. We have to endure and get our praise on as Paul and Silas did when they were in jail. "But about midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns of praise to God, and the prisoners were listening to them; and **SUDDENLY** there came a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison house were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened." (Acts 16:25-26)

Dear saint, if you are in the darkness, praise Him, wait for the **SUDDENLY**. It will come.

"So, let us know, let us press on to know the **LORD**. His going forth is as certain as the dawn; And He will come to us like the rain, Like the spring rain watering the earth."

Hosea 6:3

**WE THANK GOD FOR YOU!!!
WE CANNOT DO THIS WITHOUT
YOU!!!**

Father,

in the beautiful name of Yeshua Jesus, we honor You and thank You for Your wonders to us in this land. We are all pilgrims going to a place that we have never seen and yet, thank You that we can still testify to Your goodness and have faith look expectantly ahead. All of our contentment comes from You, and we thank You for the delays and we thank You for the go aheads.

Thank You for this beautiful work that You have allowed us in which to participate in Israel. Thank You that the war has ended so far. Thank You that almost every hostage dead or alive has come home. We pray that the final deceased hostage will be returned to Israel.

Please don't let any more war in that area occur, LORD, please help. Comfort Israel in her travail. Use this small charity to serve Your people in Your land for Your glory. We pray in the name of Yeshua , amen.

IMG 3505

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**with love,
barri**

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