



Psalm 121:1-2 reads, "I will lift up my eyes to the mountains; from where shall my help come? My help *comes* from the LORD, who made heaven and earth." Where would any of us be without the help of the Lord God? The grace of God is what allows us to experience good things and good times. **James 1:17** declares, "Every good thing given and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shifting shadow."

How can you receive divine assistance to empower and guide you? *First*, trust exclusively in the Lord, which is what the psalmist did when he considered God, the Creator of heaven and earth, from whom his help would come. Trust in God means looking beyond self and others, and being dependent upon the Lord as the exclusive source of empowerment in living the Christian life.

Second, recognize that by his divine power, God "has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness" (2 Pet 1:3). God's Word – the Holy Bible – is entirely sufficient to provide divine grace for all who will receive it. Only by looking to Scripture is one able to know the Lord's sufficiency for therein He has truly revealed himself. If one is to receive divine empowerment, he or she must hear and heed the holy and inspired Word of God.

Lastly, depend upon the Lord in every respect. One of the greatest challenges of the Christian life is not to live by one's own strength; rather, it is to know personally the power that God provides (John 15:5). Know that God's "grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness" (2 Cor 12:9). Grace is God's provision for every need when his people need it. To the degree you know your weakness, the more you will be ready to experience God's power.



A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to be "Ron".

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