

Patterns of Grace and Gratitude Week 4

Monday, May 3



Artistic credit: Jeff Albertson

I lift up my eyes to the mountains— where does my help come from? My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth. He will not let your foot slip— he who watches over you will not slumber; indeed, he who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep. The LORD watches over you— the LORD is your shade at your right hand; the sun will not harm you by day, nor the moon by night. The LORD will keep you from all harm— he will watch over your life; the LORD will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore. Psalm 121:1-8

In the dusk of the beginning of night we see the shadows and silhouettes that can overwhelm us with worry, concern, fear, and shame. But the thing about God's grace is that it is beautiful and uplifting and forgiving. In the painting we see the dark mountains before us. But if we can look past them, we see the range where the light still shines. And we see the stars beginning to sprinkle the night sky with sparkling grace-filled beauty.

The thing about grace is that it is freely given by God, but difficult to receive by us. We keep dwelling in the dark mountains and forget to look beyond to the beauty and the light. That's where the reassurance lives. Our lives are not perfectfree from our own foibles or from others wounding us. But God's grace stands ready to lighten our lives and give us hope and a future. God does not slumber or sleep but watches over our lives forevermore...with abundant grace and glorious beauty.