

The Lord Keep You; Numbers 6:22-27

- I. Keep
 - A. Watch, guard, protect, be careful about, save, observe
 - B. We are a kept people
 - C. But there is no one better to keep us than the Almighty God
- II. Protector
 - A. The LORD is the powerful protector and provider
 - B. Protector
 1. Sennacherib
 2. 2 Kings 18:13–14; 13 In the fourteenth year of King Hezekiah, Sennacherib king of Assyria came up against all the fortified cities of Judah and took them. 14 And Hezekiah king of Judah sent to the king of Assyria at Lachish, saying, “I have done wrong; withdraw from me. Whatever you impose on me I will bear.” And the king of Assyria required of Hezekiah king of Judah three hundred talents of silver and thirty talents of gold.
 - a) 1 talent is about 75 pounds; 22,500 pounds of silver and 9000 pounds of gold
 - b) Hezekiah was willing to (and did) give all of that to Sennacherib
 - c) Yet, Sennacherib was not satisfied (he alludes to some kind of alliance between Judah and Egypt)
 3. 2 Kings 18:28-32
 - a) “Make you trust in the LORD”
 - b) The Rabshakeh (Sennacherib’s field commander) was mocking God
 4. 2 Kings 19:14-19
 - a) Hezekiah recognizes there is only One God, The LORD, The God of the covenant
 - b) He recognizes Sennacherib’s power in defeating many kingdoms
 - c) He recognizes that the gods that Sennacherib follows are not gods at all
 - d) He petitions for deliverance
 5. 2 Kings 19:32-37
 6. God protected Hezekiah and Jerusalem from Assyria
 7. Esther (one of my favorites)
 - a) The book of Esther never mentions God’s name, yet God clearly orchestrated all of its events
 - b) Esther, a Jew living among the exiles in Persia, became queen of the empire in about 480 b.c.
 - c) Haman, a Persian official, sought to eradicate the Jewish minority, but God had prepared Esther “for such a time as this” (4:14)
 - d) Throughout the book we see God’s sovereign hand preserving his people, showing that everything is under his control
 8. Jude 24; Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy,
 - C. Provider
 1. Deuteronomy 28:1-6
 - a) We see blessings and provision here for Israel if they keep the LORD’s commandments
 - b) LORD (Yahweh) - 6,828
 - c) God (Elohim) - 2,600
 - d) God Almighty (El Shaddai) - 48

- e) God Most High (El Elyon) - 18
- 2. He provided a sacrifice for Abraham (instead of Isaac)
- 3. He causes the sun to shine and sends the rain (Matthew 5:43-45)
- 4. Paul
 - a) Philippians 4:14–20; 14 Yet it was kind of you to share my trouble. 15 And you Philippians yourselves know that in the beginning of the gospel, when I left Macedonia, no church entered into partnership with me in giving and receiving, except you only. 16 Even in Thessalonica you sent me help for my needs once and again. 17 Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that increases to your credit. 18 I have received full payment, and more. I am well supplied, having received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent, a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God. 19 And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. 20 To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.
- D. The LORD is the powerful protector and provider

III. Personal

- A. The LORD wants to have a personal and intimate relationship with you
- B. God chooses Moses
 - 1. Exodus 3:11–12; 11 But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?” 12 He said, “But I will be with you, and this shall be the sign for you, that I have sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain.”
- C. Israel chooses Moses
 - 1. Exodus 19:9; And the Lord said to Moses, “Behold, I am coming to you in a thick cloud, that the people may hear when I speak with you, and may also believe you forever.” When Moses told the words of the people to the Lord,
 - 2. Exodus 20:18–21; 18 Now when all the people saw the thunder and the flashes of lightning and the sound of the trumpet and the mountain smoking, the people were afraid and trembled, and they stood far off 19 and said to Moses, “You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, lest we die.” 20 Moses said to the people, “Do not fear, for God has come to test you, that the fear of him may be before you, that you may not sin.” 21 The people stood far off, while Moses drew near to the thick darkness where God was.
- D. How God speaks to Moses
 - 1. Exodus 33:11; Thus the Lord used to speak to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend. When Moses turned again into the camp, his assistant Joshua the son of Nun, a young man, would not depart from the tent.
- E. God has always wanted a close personal relationship with His people, Israel under the first promise and us (spiritual Israel) under the second promise
 - 1. Revelation 3:20–21; 20 Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me. 21 The one who conquers, I will grant him to sit with me on my throne, as I also conquered and sat down with my Father on his throne.
 - 2. Matthew 7:7–11; 7 “Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. 8 For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. 9 Or which one of you, if his son asks him for bread, will give him a stone? 10 Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a serpent? 11 If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your

children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him!

F. He is even there in the midst of our trials, our tragedies, our problems.

1. 2 Thessalonians 3:3; But the Lord is faithful. He will establish you and guard you against the evil one.
2. 1 Corinthians 10:13; No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

G. He wants us to love Him because He first loved us

1. Jude 20–21; 20 But you, beloved, building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit, 21 keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life.
2. 1 John 1:7–9; 7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. 8 If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

H. The LORD wants you!

IV. The Lord Keep you

A. The LORD is the powerful protector and provider

B. The LORD wants to have a personal and intimate relationship with you