

Before or Behind?

Description

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Psalm 141:1-8

It is not uncommon to hear Christians encourage one another with the words, “The Lord will go before you!”

In Psalm 141, David asks God to guard his mouth, to help him control his desires, and to bring people to keep him in line. He is aware of the danger if he falls into temptation. He knows it will lead to his ruin and destruction.

It might encourage us to imagine God going before us no matter where we go, but if we are unwilling to check our hearts as David does, this sentiment is arrogant, at best, and dangerous, at worst. We can convince ourselves to go to some of the most God-forsaken places and give Him the blame when we fall.

As David declares “my eyes are fixed on you, Sovereign Lord; in you I take refuge,” he is not telling God to go ahead of him clearing the way for his approach. Instead he is declaring that he will tuck in so closely to the trail of God, that he will walk a righteous path.

The question is not, “will God go before me,” but rather, “Am I willing to go behind God?”

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