

God is the Source of Our Protection

Psalms 91:1-2 (KJV) ¹ *He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.* ² *I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.*

- How will be protected in times like these?
- God has a *secret place* for His children, a hiding place of safety, a place of security, a place of protection
- It's not a place to visit, it's not like a hotel where you stay temporarily, it's a place to live, to dwell, it's home
- The secret place is under God's wings
- Before we can rest in the security of God, we must continually draw near to Him and living in close communion with Him
- When we live in the presence of God, we abide under the shadow of the Almighty
- The shadow of the Almighty not only is place of dwelling, a habitation, it also suggests *nearness*
- When we live in the presence of God, He becomes like a mighty *refuge* and *fortress* for us
- God is our refuge; a shelter for us in times of danger ***Isaiah 4:6 (KJV) 6 And there shall be a tabernacle for a shadow in the daytime from the heat, and for a place of refuge, and for a covert from storm and from rain.***
- Because God is our refuge and our fortress, we can full trust and depend on Him in times of trouble and uncertainty
- We can faithfully run to God there is any threat, danger or trouble ***Proverbs 18:10 (KJV) 10 The name of the LORD is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe.***
- Four times in verses 1 and 2 a name of God is mentioned, they are not synonyms, but are different aspects of who God is to you
- He is:
 - ***The Most High*** – God is the Highest, the most Supreme Being and owner of the universe, He is all-powerful and can't be overthrown.
 - ***The Almighty (El Shaddai)*** – God is sufficient for everything we need.
 - ***The Lord (Yahweh, Jehovah)*** – God is faithful and when He makes a promise to us.
 - ***My God (Elohim)*** - speaks of the fulness and greatness of God's power.

How God Protects, Comforts and Cares for Us

³ ***Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence.*** ⁴ ***He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler.***

- And the psalmist is letting us know that God is the One they personally rely and trust for protection
- He protects us from the snare of the fowler; a fowler is a person that traps birds

- The enemy of our soul often uses decoys and deception that we don't see until it's too late
- God will deliver us from the noisome pestilence
 - God protects His people in times of plague and disease
 - We are not immune from sickness and disease, but we are guarded from destructive spiritual forces as we dwell in the secret place of the Most High
- God promises to cover you with His feathers like a mother hen sheltering her young chicks
 - Being covered under God's wings is a symbol of God's *power*, *protection* and *care*
- The truth or faithfulness of God will be our shield and buckler
 - In Bible days the shield was a rectangular piece of armor that the soldier could hide behind and be completely covered
 - The buckler was a smaller shield to defend the soldier in close combat
- What's amazing about God's promises is that they are *personal*; God is making promises to *you*
- God promises to protect, comfort, and take care of *you*

God Will Protect Us No Matter What Life Brings Our Way

⁵ Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day; ⁶ Nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday. ⁷ A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee. ⁸ Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked. ⁹ Because thou hast made the LORD, which is my refuge, even the most High, thy habitation; ¹⁰ There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling.

- Since God is a shelter and refuge, there is no need to fear
- Having God as a shelter and refuge gives us *strength* and *courage*
- Because God is our protection and refuge, we have no reason to fear
- We will not be afraid of the terror by night or by the arrow that flieth by day there is no need to be afraid because the Almighty God is providing protection for us 24/7
- There is no danger *greater than* the protection of God
- It does not matter if we know about or not, if we can see the danger or not, whether we are expecting it or not; God will protect of us
- A thousand fall your side and ten thousand at your right hand, it shall not come nigh thee
- When others are falling and failing, it won't come near you because you are protected by God
- We're not only protected from the attacks of the enemy, we're also protected from the righteous wrath of God
- Therefore, there is no need to fear
- God promises regardless of what comes He promises to deliver us *from it* or take us *through it*

God's Protection is Greater than the Enemy's Attacks

¹¹ For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways. ¹² They shall bear thee up in their hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone. ¹³ Thou shalt tread upon the lion and adder: the young lion and the dragon shalt thou trample under feet.

- There will be attacks by the enemy in this life, but we don't have to worry because God's protection is greater than the enemy's attacks
- God has *assigned* and *empowered* angels to *accompany us* and *defend us* and *preserve us* in all our ways of obedience and service to God
- The text does not mean that we can walk *recklessly* into danger and think we'll come away unscathed; that's foolishness
- In fact this verse is the one the devil "misquoted" when he was tempting Jesus in Matthew 4 **Matthew 4:5-7 (KJV)** ⁵ **Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple,** ⁶ **And saith unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone.** ⁷ **Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God.**
- That's why we must respond must recognize the tricks and temptations of the devil and respond like Jesus, "It is written, thou shalt not attempt the Lord thy God (Deuteronomy 6:16)
- What God is saying we will not merely survive the trials of life, but we will be completely victorious over the trials and enemies of life

God's Promise of Protection

¹⁴ Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name. ¹⁵ He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him. ¹⁶ With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation.

- The last three verses of this psalm are not spoken *by* God's people, but *to* God's people
- It's God speaking to the people who have set their love upon Him
- We who say we love God must show it by *our actions*
- Because we have expressed our love to God, God makes special promises to us
- A promise is only as good as the *person* making it
- When God makes a promise, you can be certain God will do what He promised
- Here the Almighty God is promising to protect and deliver us
- Because you know God for yourself, He promises to set you on high
- God promises to answer when you call
- Because you know and love God, He promises to give you the
- Blessing of His presence, I will be with you in trouble
- Trouble may come, but you won't be alone, **Psalm 23:4 (KJV)** **4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me;**

- Blessing of *protection*, God promises I will deliver you
- Blessing of *promotion*, God will honor you
- Blessing of *prosperity*, with long life, I will satisfy you
- Blessing of *preservation*, I will show you my salvation
- God will show us the most precious promise of all, eternal life in God's presence
- God promised to set us on high, meaning our deliverance will be with dignity and honor
- He's going to come through for us because He *knows* our name
- God promises not only to deliver *from* trouble, God promises to be with *in* trouble
- God will not abandon us or cut and run in the midst of trouble, but He will be right there
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- And He will be with us in the time of trouble
- God promises to deliver us from trouble, He promises to deliver us from death
- He will give us long life
- He will show us our salvation
- God will show us Jesus, our salvation
- I've protected you, shielded you, fought for you, went through the fire with you, I've been a father to you, to accomplish one thing:
- God *packaged* you and *protected* you so that you would arrive at your ultimate destination intact and ready to be received the One who has been waiting for you to arrive