

## Psalm 91

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**Authorship:** Anonymous, possibly Moses or David - could make an argument for either.

**Theme:** **Psalm 90** focuses on the difficulties of life; **Psalm 91** in comparison deals with the dangers of life.

- What's the difference? Some things make life more difficult, or irritate us - there are other things that will kill us.
- Considering some of the subject matter: hidden traps, deadly plagues, terrors at night, arrows by day, rough rocky terrain, facing lions and snakes - as Adam and Eve did - all of which sounds like our modern culture.
- Credit card offers in the mail are hidden traps, or opening up an attachment on what seemed like an innocent e-mail - snares. Deadly plagues: AIDS, Ebola, bird flue, swine flue. Terrorist attacks, drunk drivers, rampant immorality of every kind and violence in our society like we've never seen.
- We're facing everything this Psalm describes; the wisdom that worked when this Psalm was written is the same wisdom that will work now.

**Hebrews 13:8** "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, today, and for ever."

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V: 1 The secret place of the Most High is when or where we make God our dwelling place, when we're truly abiding in Him.

As Paul said:

**Acts 17:28** "For in Him we live, and move, and have our being;..."

- To abide is to reside, to stay near - and in this case under the shadow of the Almighty, that means to be close by, if you're under the shadow then you're pretty close.

That was certainly David's prayer:

**Psalm 17:8** "Keep me as the apple of Your eye; hide me under the shadow of Your wings,"

- To dwell vs: abide: (Hebrew poetry) Similar terms, not quite synonymous but close.
- **Dwell:** (H-3427). **yāšab:** A verb (action word) meaning to sit, to dwell, to inhabit, to endure, to stay. To sit being the root idea.

- **Abide:** (H-3885). *lûn*: I. A verb meaning to lodge, to tarry. It means to rest.
- Resting in Him, not striving, not working for our salvation, but abiding in Him.

**Hebrews 4:10** “For he who has entered His rest has himself also ceased from his works as God did from His.”

**Ephesians 2:8-9** “<sup>8</sup>For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, <sup>9</sup>not of works, lest anyone should boast.”

- When He is our all in all, a lot of other superfluous stuff seems to fall by the wayside, life get stripped down to what is really important - ultimately that's Jesus!

Jesus said:

**John 15:5** “I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in Me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without Me, ye can do nothing.”

- Chickens dwelling in coop may or may not produce eggs (skunks, dogs, kids, heat) - but when they are at rest, at peace - they produce eggs.
- Two names / titles: “*Most High*” and “*Almighty*.”

**Most High:** *Ei Elyon*, the Most High, the Highest. Used for the first time in **Genesis 14:18** as Melchizedek identifies Himself as the priest of the “Most High God.”

**Almighty:** *Ei Shaddai*; first used in **Genesis 17:1**, “I am the almighty God...”  
“*Ei Shaddai*” literally means “breast” or “life giver.”

V: 2 When this is the case, or because this is the case “*I will say of the Lord*” - I will testify, I will declare, I will share...

**Psalm 22:22** “I will declare Thy name unto my brethren: in the midst of the congregation will I praise thee.”

**Psalm 40:5** “Many, O Lord my God, are thy wonderful works which thou hast done, and thy thoughts which are to us-ward: they cannot be reckoned up in order unto thee: if I would declare and speak of them, they are more than can be numbered.”

- Our testimony, our declarations, and our worshipping, giving Him glory are all a response to His revelation in our lives, whether through His Word, or His mighty works in our lives, it's a response.

**Psalm 51:10-15** “<sup>10</sup>Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. <sup>11</sup>Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me. <sup>12</sup>Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit. <sup>13</sup>Then will I teach transgressors Thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto Thee. <sup>14</sup>Deliver me from blood-guiltiness, O God, thou God of my salvation: and my tongue shall sing aloud of thy righteousness. <sup>15</sup>O Lord, open thou my lips; and my mouth shall shew forth thy praise.”

- Abiding in Christ, when He is our home - then He is our refuge, our fortress, and our strong tower.
- Notice that it is based on a personal relationship - *I* will say, He is **my** refuge, **my** fortress **my** God!
- Overall this is a possessive statement: (I love it!)

**Song 6:3** “I am my Beloved’s, and my Beloved is mine...”

- Then He is truly our God; which is the master passion of our lives.

V: 2b “*In Him I will trust.*” - A statement of affirmation, commitment.

- We can trust in Him, we place our faith in Him.

**Hebrews 11:6** “But without faith it is impossible to please Him; for he that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him.”

V: 3 Surely, meaning you can count on it! God will deliver us from the snare (traps) of the fowler. Before guns, birds were hunted and caught with snares, if you wanted a bird you had to trap it.

- This is an allegory. Satan is the one who is seeking to trap you and to destroy you. Satan lays his traps for the children of God.

**1 Peter 5:8** “Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.”

- The Lord will deliver or rescue us from the traps of the enemy, He will deliver us from the perilous or dangerous pestilence.
- There is a book entitled “None of These Diseases” it describes all the diseases that you won’t get if you follow the various Levitical laws and practices.

- If you're walking with the Lord and not engaged in certain activities then the chances of getting a sexually transmitted disease is pretty low, the same is true for other diseases as well.

**Isaiah 40:31** "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint." (We'll be free as opposed to being trapped.)

- God wants us to fly, to soar to the heights. Satan on the other hand wants to clip our wings, he wants to take us down, he wants to ensnare us.
- These two dangers also represent two type of attacks, or two different tactics of the enemy. The first is subtlety, the snare, the hidden, the not so obvious kind of a trap.
- Sometimes that attack that is veiled in friendship or coming along side, some form of allurements; while the other is "noisome" it's loud and obvious, perhaps more direct and recognizable.
- Credit card offers in the mail - listen for the hissss... of Satan.

V:4 Another beautiful allegory of the mother hen ruffling her feathers so that the little chicks that have been frightened may run to her and find shelter, finding that place of comfort and protection under her wings.

- God is and will be our covering; His truth, His Word shall be our shield, our protection, our armor. We can and should hide behind God's Word.

Darkness, from falling into a ditch, from going the wrong way, seeing the snare.

**Psalms 119:105** "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."

- Generally a snare or a trap is something you can't see, and God's word helps us to see it.

From the lies, captivity - the snare of the fowler.

**John 8:31-32** "31... if ye continue / abide in My word, then are ye My disciples indeed; 32And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

**Psalms 119:11** "Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee."

**Psalms 119:165** "Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them."

- A refuge is a place of safety, a place of protection.

**Psalm 46:1** “God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.”

- God’s servants are invincible, immortal - until their work is complete.

**Romans 8:35-39** “<sup>35</sup>Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? <sup>36</sup>As it is written: for Your sake we are killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. <sup>37</sup>Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. <sup>38</sup>For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, <sup>39</sup>nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

V: 5-6 We shall not fear the hidden things of the night, nor the warfare of the day: We won’t have to be because this fearlessness, this faith, this lack of fear is or will be the result of being under the shadow of his wings, experiencing His protection.

- The storm or the warfare may be swirling all around us, but we’re protected under the shadow of His wings.

**2 Timothy 1:7** “For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.”

Faith and fear are mutually exclusive terms:

**1 John 4:18** “There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.”

V: 7-8 A thousand at your side, and 10 thousand at your right side - more on your right side because generally they were right handed, and that was the hand you hold your sword in.

- Swinging the sword of the Spirit, the Word of God - God’s Word doesn’t return void, tens of thousands are slain by it!
- None of this violence will come near you, you won’t be in jeopardy - but you’ll see it from afar, you’ll be aware, able to appreciate the protection.
- The reward of the wicked; their deaths.

**Romans 6:23** “For the wages of sin is death...”

V: 9-12 Because you’ve made this commitment, this choice, because you’ve taken this step of faith - no evil shall befall you, no plague shall come near your dwelling.

**Proverbs 12:21** “No grave trouble will overtake the righteous, but the wicked shall be filled with evil.”

Speaking of angels, He gives us guardian angels:

**Hebrews 1:14** “Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation?”

- Satan misquoted this passage of scripture to Jesus in an attempt to get Jesus to sin, Satan has gone on to misquote it to many who were not as familiar with the Word of God as Jesus was - tempting people to tempt God and to do foolish things.
- This is a common tactic of the enemy, misquoting scripture. That is why we must know it for ourselves.

**John 8:31-32** “<sup>31</sup>If you abide / continue in My word, then you are My disciples indeed. <sup>32</sup>And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”

V: 13 Treading upon the lion and the cobra / adder, the young lion and the serpent, or the dragon in KJV.

- Treading upon as in victory and domination because we already have the victory in Christ Jesus over the enemy - Satan who is described as a serpent, a lion, and a dragon.

**1 Peter 5:8** “Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.”

**Revelation 20:2** “He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan...”

V: 14 God responds: “Because he has set his love on Me...” He has made God the object of his adoration and love, he’s made God truly the master passion of his life.

- This is what we are all called to do:

**Matthew 22:37** “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.”

- Because he has done this God will deliver him, he will be set on high... rescued and set on high above the flood waters, or literally on high above with the Lord in heaven - safe from all harm.

V: 14b “... *Because he has known My name.*” Because you have known who I am...

Jesus said:

**John 10:14** “I am the good Shepherd: and I know My sheep, and am known by My own.”

**John 10:27** “My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.”

V: 15 Part of that eternal relationship, knowing each other, responding to each other when we call. (Two way communication.)

**Psalm 34:15, 17** “<sup>15</sup>The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and His ears are open to their cry.” - “<sup>17</sup>The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears, and delivers them out of all their troubles.”

**Psalm 50:15** “Call upon Me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify Me.”

- Call upon Me - do it!
- Part of that relationship is that not only will God hear us, but He’s given us the capacity to hear Him.

**Isaiah 30:21** “Your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, this is the way, walk in it, whenever you turn to the right hand or whenever you turn to the left.”

- Still God speaking: I will be with him, I will deliver him and honor him.

V: 16 Continuing in the blessing of knowing God’s name: Blessed with “long life” and show him My salvation. He will see salvation, eternal life!

- Jesus in the Greek, Yeshua in Hebrew: literally God is Salvation.

**John 3:36** “He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him.”

**Acts 4:12** “Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

**Deuteronomy 30:19-20** “<sup>19</sup>I call heaven and earth as witness today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live; <sup>20</sup>that you may love the Lord your God, that you may obey His voice, and that you may cling to Him, for He is your life and the length of your days;...”

ref.Psalm.091