

PSALM 91 – SAFETY IN ABIDING IN GOD

Introduction

- 1) **Psalm 91:2** – *“I will say of the Lord, ‘He is my refuge and my fortress; my God, in Him I will trust’”*
- 2) In an unpredictable and dangerous world, we seek places of safety: friends, family, church, etc.
- 3) The greatest refuge is our God, and this psalm emphasizes the safety of those who abide in God

I) In God We Trust (vv. 1-2)

- A) Those who dwell in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty
 - 1) The blessing of safety comes to those who “dwell” with God – day by day fellowship and service, not just a superficial claim without action (cf. Psa. 90:1)
 - 2) “Secret place” – God’s place found by His direction (Psa. 27:5; 31:20)
 - 3) “The shadow of the Almighty” – full and complete influence and protection over all those who dwell close to God (Psa. 17:8; 63:7)
- B) The LORD is our refuge and fortress
 - 1) A strong place of safety (Psa. 18:1-2)
 - 2) Refuges of men are houses of cards – built with human wisdom, strength, and desires
- C) In God we trust
 - 1) On our money, but far from many hearts – will we trust God with our whole heart?
 - 2) Proverbs 16:20 – trusting in the Lord brings true happiness

II) Deliverance from Danger (vv. 3-8)

- A) What OT Israel may have seen as protection from physical dangers can now be understood as divine protection and victory in our spiritual lives
- B) If we stay on God’s side, victory is assured over Satan and His devices
 - 1) Ephesians 6:10-17; 2 Cor. 10:3-5; Rom. 8:35-37, 31

III) Divine Protection (vv. 9-13)

- A) As long as we dwell within the refuge of God, there is protection from overpowering evil
 - 1) This protection involves “His angels” – ministering spirits for the faithful (Heb. 1:14)
 - a) Angels will “keep you in all your ways” and “bear you up lest you dash your foot against a stone” – how this is accomplished today for the faithful is not revealed (cf. Eph. 6:12)
 - b) God has legions of angels as His disposal to carry out His will (cf. Matt. 26:53)
- B) Vv. 11-12 – quoted by Satan during his temptations of Jesus (Matt. 4:5-7; Lk. 4:9-12)
 - 1) Proves that simply quoting the Scriptures does not indicate a believing heart giving righteous instruction – can be quoted in ignorance and for evil purposes of deception
 - 2) Satan misuses this scripture as an opportunity to test God rather than to encourage faith and trust in His promises
 - 3) Jesus is the perfect example of one who always put His trust in God as His refuge, and never questioned or tested His Father’s promises (Jn. 15:10)

IV) Divine Answer (vv. 14-16)

- A) Words spoken by God about those who trust in Him [“set his love upon Me”]
 - 1) God will provide deliverance (1 Jn. 5:2-4), exaltation (1 Pet. 5:6), answered prayer (1 Jn. 5:14-15), help (Heb. 13:5-6), and hope of eternal salvation (Heb. 10:34-35)

Conclusion

What great assurances of safety God gives those who are His faithful servants! Knowing you have a place of divine refuge and victory gives great confidence and hope in difficult times.