

THE COVERING Week 44 | April 1, 2025

"The LORD is my rock, my fortress, and my savior; my God is my rock, in whom I find protection. He is my shield, the power that saves me, and my place of safety."

Psalm 18:2

Throughout scripture and the history that follows we have seen the **hand of God** actively *at work* in the <u>life of humanity</u>. Some call it **providence**, **favor**, or **luck**, but oftentimes in the Bible it was simply recognized as "*The Covering*" of God. A covering represents the <u>various blessings</u> that come as one places themselves **under the authority** of another, for it carries with it the *force* and *might* of He who <u>bestows it</u>. In this **world at war** we find ourselves in, we *need this Covering* today now more than ever, for with it comes God's:

1. POWER (<u>Psalm 91:13</u>)

- a. NOTE: The power of God is freely available to the people of God as they work towards His will and fulfill His purposes. This same power which created the heavens and the earth cannot possibly be stopped by any force of its creation. The Enemy knows this, and it terrifies him. Therefore he spends an inordinate amount of time attempting to convince God's children that they are in fact weak, powerless, or unworthy of the rightful inheritance that is theirs as co-heirs with Christ. (Isaiah 41:10; Joshua 23:10; Romans 8:17)
 - i. For Ex. "Father God, thank You for adopting me into Your family, for naming me as an heir to Your glory and suffering. Thank You for granting me access to the power and authority of heaven's throne as I act in accordance with Your will.

 Cover myself and fellow believers with this power today, destroying all lies and schemes of the Evil One that attempt to keep us living in defeat, and revealing Your might, glory, and majesty to the lost in our lives."
 - 1. **REMEMBER:** We are called to **advance the Kingdom**, not merely *hold our ground*. (<u>Proverbs 28:1</u>)

2. PROTECTION (Isaiah 54:17)

a. **NOTE:** Like **an umbrella** on a *rainy day*, the covering of God may not always change our <u>circumstance</u> but it **shifts** how we *experience it*. God's protection is <u>readily available</u> as we remain **in alignment** with Him, *positioning ourselves* properly <u>under His authority</u> and **rule**. Obviously, Satan *hates this fact*. That's why he is constantly trying to <u>tempt us</u> out of the **shelter of our Savior** and into the midst of the *storms raging* all around through <u>various traps</u> of **distraction**, **deception**, or **division**. (<u>Psalm 5:11</u>; <u>Psalm 91</u>)

- i. For Ex. "Lord God, thank You for the protection that comes as we remain in alignment with You. Thank You for shielding us from the full brunt and force of the storms that constantly rage all around. Please, Lord, make a clear distinction between those who are under Your shelter and those who are not, that those far from You might seek Your face and submit to Your will. Guard us also against the ways of the Enemy, that no diversion, delusion, or discord would pull us away from You."
 - REMEMBER: Rest comes easiest in the shade of God's covering. (Psalm 4:8)

3. PROVISION (Psalm 34:8)

- a. NOTE: Just as the covering of God protects us from the dangerous storms of life, it also places us in position to receive His showers of blessings. God's hand of favor at work in our midst is one of His many ways to reveal Himself to the watching world nearby. Unable to stand this reality, the devil and his forces seek to rob us of God's abundant provision by enticing us with false promises of greener grass and lusher forests on the other side of God's will. (Psalm 5:12; Psalm 23)
 - i. For Ex. "Dear God, Jehovah-Jireh, thank You for providing our every need in an abundant fashion. Thank You for hearing and heeding the cries of our heart, for sending the rains we crave in due time and season as we abide in You. Give us the patience, Lord, to wait for Your timing and not to seek satisfaction on our own. Reveal to us the falsehoods of the Enemy, exposing his counterfeit harvest for the manure it truly is."
 - 1. **REMEMBER:** God's **provision** is an opportunity for generosity. (Psalm 37:25-26)

Questions for Reflection:

- Have you grown satisfied with merely standing your ground?
 - Just because you're <u>not falling</u> doesn't mean you're **not failing**. We were never meant to be *lukewarm* or *stagnant*.
- Do you struggle to rest or find peace to be <u>fleeting</u>?
 - o It could easily be that you have wandered out from beneath God's covering.
- Has **God's provision** in your life led to *generosity with others*?
 - o God will not reward stingy stewardship, we must give as freely as we have received.