

## PSALM 91

(Psa 91:1) He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

### 1. The blessings are for those that dwelleth:

The blessings here promised are not for all believers, but for those who live in **close fellowship with God**. Every child of God looks towards the inner sanctuary and the mercy-seat, **yet all do not dwell in the most holy place**; they run to it at times, and enjoy occasional approaches, but they do not habitually reside in the secret place of His presence.

### 2. The Shadow of the Almighty:

No shelter can be imagined at all comparable to the protection of Jehovah's own shadow. The Almighty himself is where his shadow is, and hence those who dwell in his secret place are shielded by him.

a. **Like a shadow of a hawk over her young that has fallen out of his nest.**

b. **As Birds flying shall he Defend Israel.**

**Isa 31:5** As birds flying, so will the LORD of hosts defend Jerusalem; defending also he will deliver *it*; and passing over he will preserve it.

**Psa 17:8** Keep me as the apple of the eye, hide me under the shadow of thy wings,

c. **A shadow of a great rock in a weary land:**

**Isa 32:2** And a man shall be as an hiding place from the wind, and a covert from the tempest; as rivers of water

in a dry place, as the shadow of a great rock in a weary land.

(Psa 91:2) I will say of the LORD, *He is* my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.

**he is my refuge**: a refuge in every time of trouble, a refuge when all others fail; and is himself a never failing one, a strong refuge, which none can break through and into, and in which all that have fled thither and dwell are safe:

**and my fortress**; what fortifications, natural or artificial, are to a city and its inhabitants, that is God to his people, and much more; he is round about them, as the mountains were about Jerusalem; his salvation are walls and bulwarks to them; yea, he is a wall of fire about them,

Psa 125:2 As the mountains *are* round about Jerusalem, so the LORD *is* round about his people from henceforth even for ever.

### CITIES OF REFUGE

(Num 35; Josh. 20:1-6)

- a. **The cities of refuge were easily accessible.** (3 on each side of Jordan)
- b. **The cities were appointed and selected long before the came into use.** When man sinned, God had already promised a Saviour.
- c. **The Cities provided safety.** Until the death of the High Priest, then was free to return to his family and loved ones.

**Cities of Refuge**: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

1. **Kadesh**: “**Sanctuary or righteousness**;” He is our righteousness.
  
2. **Shechem**: “**Shoulder**”: This speaks of His strength and the place of burden. The High Priest carried upon each shoulder the six names of the tribes of Israel when entering the Holy of Holies. It is the place where the shepherd carries the lost sheep which has been found. The arms that uphold the universe will uphold the weakest blood bought saint.
  
3. **Hebron**: “**fellowship**” The fellowship is restored in and through Christ after the break in the garden of Eden. Our Lord came to be friendless that we might have a friend.
  
4. **Bezer**: “Fortress” Christ is our Fortress. We are secure and safe in Him. Satan is mighty but our Saviour is Almighty.

**Pro 18:10** The name of the LORD *is* a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe.

5. **Remoth**: “Exaltation.” Christ became lower than the angels, even as a worm (so says the Psalmist), the He might be exalted and lifts us above the angels, into heavenly place in Christ Jesus.
  
6. **Golan**: “Joy” He is our exceeding joy. “In his presence is fullness of joy.

The Lord is our El Shaddai: The almighty God the God who is ENOUGH.

**(Psa 91:3)** Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, *and* from the noisome pestilence.

*“Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler.”*

Assuredly no subtle plot shall succeed against one who has the eyes of God watching for his defence. We are foolish and weak as poor little birds, and are very apt to be lured to our destruction by cunning foes, but if we dwell near to God, he will see to it that the most skilful deceiver shall not entrap us.

**(Psa 91:4)** He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth *shall be thy* shield and buckler.

[Psa 91:4](#)

*“He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust.”*

Even as a hen covereth her chickens so doth the Lord protect the souls which dwell in him; let us cower down beneath him for comfort and for safety.

*“...his truth shall be thy shield and buckler.”*

*“His truth”* - his true promise, and his faithfulness to his promise *“shall be thy shield and buckler.”* Double armour has he who relies upon the Lord. He bears a shield and wears an all-surrounding coat of mail - such is the force of the word *“buckler.”* To quench fiery darts the truth is a most effectual shield, and to blunt all swords it is an equally effectual coat of mail.

**(Psa 91:5)** Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; *nor* for the arrow *that* flieth by day;

**(Psa 91:6)** *Nor* for the pestilence *that* walketh in darkness; *nor* for the destruction *that* wasteth at noonday.

**(Psa 91:7)** A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; *but* it shall not come nigh thee.

“A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand.” So terribly may the plague rage among men that the bills of mortality may become very heavy and continue to grow ten times heavier still, yet shall such as this Psalm speaks of survive the scythe of death. “*It shall not come nigh thee.*” It shall be so near as to be at thy side,

(Psa 91:8) Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked.

(Psa 91:9) Because thou hast made the LORD, *which is* my refuge, *even* the most High, thy habitation;

(Psa 91:10) There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling.

(Psa 91:11) For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways.

(Psa 91:12) They shall bear thee up in *their* hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone.

(Psa 91:13) Thou shalt tread upon the lion and adder: the young lion and the dragon shalt thou trample under feet.

(Psa 91:14) 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.

(Psa 91:15) He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I *will be* with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him.

(Psa 91:16) With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation.