CC Oley 12/17/23

## Psalm 91 Under the Shelter of God's Wings

I choose now to be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. I confess that I am in the Lord and thus, am located in the power of His might. I choose to put on the whole armor that God as provided me, in order that I might stand against the methods of the enemy. I know that the battle is not with flesh and blood but against principalities, powers, rulers of darkness, and spiritual wickedness in high places. Therefore I stand to accept the armor, which is mine in Jesus... I put on the breastplate of righteousness, the Lord Jesus Christ. He is made unto me righteousness. I am made righteous in Him. I put on the girdle of truth. I accept the fact that Jesus is Truth and that Truth has made me free. I refuse deception and I accept the truth. I slip into the footwear of preparation in the Gospel. I am now ready to walk with Him. I put on the helmet of salvation. The certainty of my salvation covers and protects my mind and my outlook. I stand in that certainty now! I take up the shield of faith. I now trust in the trustworthiness of God! I am covered from head to toe so that Satan's fiery darts cannot touch me... I now take my offensive weapon, the Word of God...declaring it to be true without error, reliable, powerful, and alive - God's word to me! And now I am dressed from head to foot for battle. (Jack Taylor)

I. Faith must be more than mere words. True faith means actively seeking God's guidance, communing with Him, thanking Him for His blessings, and turning to Him and trusting Him in times of need. When you turn to God and truly dwell in Him and trust Him as your shelter, shadow, refuge, and fortress, God will bestow His blessings. The question is: Do we really call God "my God" and is He truly our refuge in times of trouble? Do we live in close fellowship with God and habitually dwell with Him and rest in His shadow, clinging to Him in all circumstances?

John 20:28 Deuteronomy 32:1-4 II. Without faith in God, fear can grip us, especially in these last days. These fears will be overwhelming to those that do not have faith in God. Such fears have and will continue to grip the world due to some global disaster or pandemic and people will mistakenly flock to anyone that provides a message of hope that can calm the panic and stop the chaos. During the tribulation, the Antichrist will masterfully exploit that fear to his advantage and there will be no question about taking the mark of the beast if it means having safety, stability, and necessities such as food, clothing, and shelter. Instead of providing salvation, faith in the Antichrist will only ensure that the war and pestilence that people fear are inflicted upon them. We are not to be like the rest of the world. We must have faith in God, knowing He has promised to protect those that believe, trust, and dwell in Him.

Psalm 40:1-5; 58:3-6; 119:110
Matthew 4:6-7,11; 6:19-21; 16:25; 23:37; 26:53
Genesis 15:1
Luke 10:19-20; 21:16-19; 22:43
Romans 8:18,28,35,37-39
Acts 4:18-20; 16:22-25
Philippians 1:20-21; 3:20
2 Timothy 3:12
Hebrews 1:14; 10:24-25; 11:24-26; 12:5-6; 13:2
Revelation 6:9-11; 7:14-17; 14:13; 16:5-7
James 1:12
1 Corinthians 4:12-13; 15:54,57-58; 16:13-14
1 Thessalonians 3:2-4
Ephesians 6:10-18
Deuteronomy 32:33

III. This psalm's central message is that God will rescue and protect from all such dangers those who trust Him. We need to praise God constantly for this help and protection. One of the great blessings for following hard after God is knowing that when we call upon Him, He will hear and answer us. From this psalm, we know that God will deliver and honor such a person. We also know that God will be with us as believers when we are in trouble, which means that God does not always lift a Christian out of troubles. Sometimes it is His will that we endure them and profit from them. When we go through such circumstances, God goes through them with us and sustains us in our sufferings. These promises are only for those who trust in or love God. Therefore, they are blessings that some believers miss out on, simply because they are always fretting (Psalm 37) and do not trust God as they should.

Deuteronomy 7:7; 10:15; 30:19-20 Psalm 17:6; 65:2; 76:1 Exodus 20:12 Ezra 8:23 Proverbs 3:1-2 Matthew 7:7-8