

Practicing Psalm 91: Ways to Remain in God's Protective Presence

Meaning of Ps. 91—vs. 1-16—Promises of God's protection against all kinds of evil

Theme—.1- abiding in Him produces protection by Him

.2-.12 – divine protection from many kinds of evil—declared!

.9- abiding in Him is not automatic; our position is “made” by us – “made”—Hebrew word meaning—“to put, place, or set” – “to put or set into place” – We set Him into place as divine protection in our lives.

.13 – using our authority to take dominion over evil

.14 – messianic verse plus our position in Christ

.15-.16 – promise of divine rescue and favor, including long life (lit. length of days – 70 or 80 if strong—Ps. 90.10)

“plague” .10 – Hebrew word used to mean “something inflicted” on a body, specifically used to refer to spots of leprosy. But can generally refer to any externally imposed disease.

All kinds of evil—“snare of the fowler” “the perilous **pestilence**” (.3 and .6) – “an overwhelming disease that affects an entire community” – Black Plague killed 1/3 of all Europe in the Middle Ages
Other: terror by night, arrow by day (physical attack); pestilence, destruction, evil – all this “shall not come near you”

Practical Ways to “make” (set into place) the Lord our Dwelling Place— (Our Spiritual Weapons – 2 Co. 10:4—“The weapons we use to wage war are not physical, but mighty in God to destroy evil strongholds.”)

1. Feed on Scripture (meditation) and Declare Its Truth –
Jesus: “My words are Spirit and life” – John 6:63
Eph. 6:17—“The Spirit's sword—God's word.” (spoken out) –

Examples of Biblical Proclamations:

“No weapon formed against me shall prosper” Isa. 54:17

“The evil one does not touch me.” 1 John 5:18

“No plague shall come near my dwelling.” Ps. 91:10

2. Soak Contemplatively in His Presence – “Be still and know that I am God.” Ps. 46:10 – Be at rest with listening eyes toward God— acknowledge Him, press into Him, “be” in Him!
3. Practice “Receiving Prayer” Eph. 6:18—“Pray in the Spirit with all kinds of prayers” – based on His promises, it’s a “taking” His kingdom virtue, power, and protection into ourselves as ours— “Lord, I receive Your protection now!”
4. Enter into Worship Regularly – Ps. 22:3—“God is enthroned on the praises of His people.” **Breathe in the Atmosphere of His Presence**— use CDs or streaming or whatever—be expressive— spiritual power emerges from our mouths
5. Declare Often that Jesus Christ is Lord – Phil. 2: 9-11 – every knee, every tongue shall confess—Jesus Christ is Lord – SHOUT to the Lord with the voice of triumph! For the Lord Most High is awesome, a great King over all the earth!” (Ps. 47:1)
6. Take the Lord’s Supper Often – a means of grace and healing
7. Practice a Lifestyle of Forgiveness – unforgiveness blocks the flow of God’s full grace to us – Matt. 6:15--“If you do not forgive others their sins against you, Your Father will not forgive your sins.”
8. Receive Healing/Strengthening Prayer from Others – “Confess your weaknesses to one another and pray for each other to be healed.” James 5:16