

Remnant Life Church  
October 15, 2023  
God's Protection  
Psalm 91:1-11

We live in dangerous times

- There was a time, not that long ago, when you could walk in any part of your neighborhood or town without fear regardless of the time of day or night
- That is no longer the case in the majority of this country

Much of this can be attributed to two factors:

- First, the increase of lawlessness
  - IOW – many people no longer consider the law binding or something they must follow
  - The thinking is what is best for me
  - In the same way it is also maintained that to do something illegal without getting caught is completely acceptable
- Second, the lack of integrity within our justice communities
  - Now please don't get me wrong, I support and value our local and state police departments
    - They do a very difficult job under intense scrutiny
    - But as in every profession there are very good people and very bad people who all wear the same uniform
  - However, our justice departments and the courts seem to be more and more turning a blind eye to the activities of not only local but national criminals who blatantly and wantonly break the law
    - Yet time and time again without consequence
    - We see it in the national political arena every day
      - I would think that if you or I participated in what many of our national leaders do, we would be sent to jail
      - Yet the corruption of not only what we see, but what we don't see is escalating at an alarming rate
- So then, how are we to feel any sense of security?
- How can we feel that there is any degree of safety in our daily lives?

Protection and security is a basic need for everyone

- Whether rich or poor, young or old, man or woman people want to be able to go about their daily lives without looking over their shoulder in fear
  - If you are traveling, you want to arrive at your destination without fearing that your mode of transportation will be hijacked or destroyed by a weapons attack
  - You want to be able to go to sleep at night without fear that thieves and robbers will break into your home
  - You want to be able to attend a wedding, funeral, sporting event, or concert without concern of a bombing or a shooting

- And you want to be able to shop, go to a restaurant, buy gas, purchase something online without fearing that your identity, financial or personal information will somehow be stolen and used against you
- Because the on-going absence of safety and protection creates an atmosphere and sense of tension, stress and anxiety.

And because of that, the security industry has exploded

- From home security systems to CCTV, from GPS trackers to personal protection with body guards
- The security industry in 2022 was estimated to be worth between 48 and 50 billion dollars

But should the Christian look at the issue of safety and security differently?

- The answer is a resounding YES
- And we can see why as we look to the book of Psalms

**READ – Psalms 91:1-11**

Let's begin by considering the first verse and the promise of God

- *He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty*
  - He who dwells – a place someone inhabits, their home
    - The promise of this protection is a universal one
      - Anyone who believes in and calls on God will be under His protection
      - And to His children, it is given even without the request
    - In addition, the word dwell goes on to be translated as, literally sitting in a secret place
      - The word picture presented is a place of calm and safety, sitting down with an assurance as you would in your own home
  - Of the Most High
    - He is God, ruler, creator over all things
    - Nothing is higher than God
      - Therefore, nothing can overwhelm those whom He is protecting
    - The visual picture provided by the author is then presented in verse 4
      - *He will cover you with His feathers, and under His wings you will find refuge*
      - There is no safer place for a baby bird than nestled in the chest under the wings of its mother
      - Moses uses this same picture in **Deut 32:11** - *...like an eagle that stirs up its nest and hovers over its young, that spreads its wings to catch them and carries them on its pinions*
      - God's protection is a regular reoccurring theme throughout the Bible

- **Isaiah 41:10** - *So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.*

*He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High...*

- Will rest – other translations say abide
  - In the Hebrew it is translated literally as a lodge or dwelling place, home
  - A place of rest
  - God's presence brings rest to our souls
  - And where is it that we will rest?
- In the shadow of the Almighty
  - Once again it is under His protection
  - A shadow not of darkness but of cool comfort
  - Like the wings of the mother bird or the eagle carrying its young