

# pt.1 - Psalms 91, Living Under God's Protection

Sermon Title: **pt.1 - Psalms 91, Living Under God's Protection**

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Speaker: **C. Elijah Bronner**

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C. Elijah Bronner: Folks, God's protection system is awesome!

Female: You are listening to BrothersoftheWord.com. This is Part 1 of the series titled, "Psalms 91, Living Under God's Protection" by C. Elijah Bronner. This sermon is number 7856.

(Music Playing: 00:00:14 - 00:00:26)

Female: And now for, Psalms 91, Living Under God's Protection - Part 1.

C. Elijah Bronner: Thank you for joining Brothers of the Word because brother, you need the Word. We welcome all of you joining us by television and those of you joining us online at brothersoftheword.com or social media. Welcome to today's service, always a wonderful delight and joy to have you to tune in and join us.

We'd like to share just a little humor. A mother was preparing pancakes for her sons, Kevin aged 5, and Ryan aged 3, and the boys begin to argue over who would get the first pancake. Their mother saw the opportunity for a moral lesson and she said if Jesus were sitting here, He would say, "Let my brother have the first pancake. I can wait." Kevin turned to his younger brother and said, "Ryan, you be Jesus."

Well, we are sharing something today. I had been talking about establishing your heart on God's word and I had seven areas that were good for people to establish their hearts, in seven different areas that were good areas for people to establish their hearts in God's word. And so, I wanted to deal with some of those areas and today, I want to begin dealing with one.

One of those areas is protection. It's protection, and someone entitle this, "Psalms 91, Living Under God's Protection." Psalms 91, Living Under God's Protection. There's a lot going on currently at the moment around the world, with viruses and different epidemics, so there's just a lot of threat of terror, a lot of anxiety, a lot of things are happening and things are happening fast, things are happening -- seem to be speeding up. And so, I think this is a divine timing to establish our heart where protection is concerned.

God has always made a way of protecting his people, throughout scripture, throughout history. He always had a hand of protection that was able to protect His people. When He brought His people

out of Egypt and He carried them through the wilderness, He was leading them by a pillar of cloud by day, and that cloud was not only a compass, but the cloud was actually a protective agent. The cloud protected them from the heat of the day. The desert can get extremely hot, so the cloud was a shelter to them. It was a protective agent from the heat, from the elements. Not only did it lead them, but it was protection.

Also, they had enemies coming behind them and that cloud would move from above them and it would move behind them so that it would block their enemies from getting to them. So, God was moving -- I like God. God can protect you in all kinds of ways. So, God was moving that little cloud. I mean, the cloud was leading them but then it'd move behind and it'd protect them. Well, look at the hand of God. I like that.

So, God could protect you, north, south, east, west, above you, below you, in front of you, behind you. So, He was just moving. You couldn't touch them. You couldn't touch God's people. And so, God had a way of protecting them by moving that cloud. You'll see protection throughout scriptures. The Bible says that Job, he had a hedge about him and the Devil literally had to ask for permission. He couldn't touch him. He said, "God, I can't touch him. You have a hedge about Job."

He had to ask for permission, so there was something surrounding Job, a hedge of protection. There are a lot of scriptures, and I'm not really going to key in on those because we're going to be dealing with Psalms 91 in particular. But there are a lot of scriptures that deal with protection.

Psalms 5 talks about a protection system. It talks about a defensive system and it talks about God being our defense. It talks about, He surrounds us with favor as a shield, and so there's a great protection defensive system in Psalms 5. I stumbled on one the other day, and I believe it's Psalms 59. Psalms 59 deals a lot with a defense system of God. There are some other ones, like Psalms 34:7. "The angel of the Lord encampeth, surround about me to deliver me."

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And so, I love the way God protects His people. Even Jesus, you know, they did not kill Jesus. Jesus laid his life down. He told

them. He said, "I can presently call 12 legions of angels down here and stop this right now if you all want to push the issue." He was just letting them know, "Now, if you really want to push the issue, I could bring a stop to this right now because I could call 12 legions of angels." I believe that equated to 72,000 angels. "I could call down right now." But He loved us so much, He laid His life down for us so that we would be able to live.

So, they didn't kill him. He laid His life down. But there were times before it was time for Him to be crucified, He was not ready to die and they tried to kill Him and they could not. You'll find accounts where they pushed Him to the edge of a cliff, ready to throw Him over. The Bible says Jesus turned around, He walked right through the midst of them, and went on His way. They couldn't recognize Him, for something happened where their eyes were not able to detect Him. When He turned around and went back through the angry mob, they didn't see Him. They couldn't recognize Him.

Folks, God's protection system is awesome! I don't know if He went invisible or what happened to Him right there, but something happened, He changed. They couldn't recognize Him. That's not the first time they didn't recognize Him. Of course, after He appeared to His disciples and they can't recognize Him, so Jesus had the ability to change His look. So, you couldn't touch Him. He could switch up.

You know, so God has all types of ways of protecting His people, and that's God's ammo. God has always provided protection for His people, and today, brings us to today. Today, we have our chief center of protection in Psalms 91. There are some other satellite offices as I have mentioned, but Psalms 91 is the chief center. But Psalms 91 does have satellite churches, so it has little offices. There are other little offices that are around, but Psalms 91 is the big daddy. Turn to your neighbors and say, "Psalms 91 is the big daddy." It's the big daddy. It's the chief. So, it's the king, Psalms 91 sits in the center where our protection is concerned.

So, we're going to jump right in. I'm going to just tell you right now, I'm not going to finish today, so we can establish our heart with that first. I'm not going to finish today, and neither am I in a rush because I feel like this is vitally important. This could save your life. This could save your life. This could protect your life.

So, Psalms 91 is something that's vital information that we need to take our time with. This is something we want to establish our hearts with. This is something you want to know. This is something you want to be branded into your heart, branded into your spirit because this is your chief covenant or protection. This is your chief place of protection, and so we're going to take our time with it. But let's begin with Verse 1, and we're going to just go verse by verse and just have a good time. We're going to just jump right in, Psalms 91

“He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.” He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. So, God has a secret place that we are allowed to live in. Notice that. This is not just some place for you to visit. You can actually live there. “He that dwelleth,” dwell means to live, means to abide, means to remain, means to stay. So, the secret place, and I asked the Lord, I said, “Lord, what is this secret place? ‘He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.’ So, Lord, what is this secret place?” because this secret place is vitally important, and we need to know what it is. What is this secret place? “If this is a place where we're able to dwell and abide under Your shadow.” This is the secret place.

Psalms 27 talks about how God hides us. God actually hides us when calamity comes, when trouble comes. He's able to hide us. He's able to hide us. Let me see if I have that verse. Psalms 27:5, listen to this. “For in the time of trouble He shall hide me in His pavilion: in the secret,” there it is again, “of His tabernacle shall He hide me; He shall set me up upon a rock.” So, there's a hiding place. There's a secret place with God, and He hides us in there, and that's why it's safe, because He has hidden us away.

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He hides us away, so, calamity can't reach us, oppression can't reach us. It can't reach us because we're hidden away. So, God hides us, so he did dwelleth in the secret place, he that lives in the secret, he that dwelleth -- in other word dwelleth once again, is not temporary but that's talking about taking residence, living there, under God's protection.

So, that's what we're talking about Psalms 91, living under God's protection. So, that dwelleth is meant for you to live there in the secret place of the most high.

So, we're able to take residence under God's protection. So, as I begin to dig into this secret place -- how many of you want to know what the secret place? Anybody curious? Was am I the only one curious about this secret place? "He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty." Secret place. So, I begin to dig in to it.

Secret place is a place of communion, it's a place of fellowship with God, it's a person who has made himself at home with God so you relax, you're abiding in God. You made yourself at home in God. It's a person who loves to be alone with God. Person who loves to be alone with God. It's a person who has entered within the veil. You know in the old covenant, the tent on the tabernacle, they had a veil up. They had holy of holies. That was a secret place and so, now, today we are able to enter into that veil and worship behind the veil, that's that secret place, and so it's a part of communion, it's a part of fellowship, it's a part of loving to be alone with God and conversing with Him, talking with Him in solitude, is worshipping Him, is resting in Him, is trusting in Him, is taking all of you a cares, all of your fears, all of your needs to Him, is seeking His council, is loving on Him and loving Him, is delighting in Him, is walking closely with Him throughout the day.

And at that point, we enter in to this sheltered place or protection and the imagery is, is almost like dwelling in intimate relationship like living with a spouse. And so, we actually live with God in a marriage relationship. So we live with Him. We live Him and it's like a marriage relationship. It's like a marriage and so that is, as I begin to dig into the secret place, that is a secret place. So, that's how you get into that -- it's a place of close communion, close fellowship, abiding in Him, delighting in Him, loving Him, talking with -- spending time with Him, solitude. And that's that place where you remain in there throughout the day, you're in Him wherever you go.

He did that dwelleth in the secret place. He that dwelleth in the secret place. Everybody say "secret place." "He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty." The other word I want to highlight is almighty.

Almighty in the case, God's strength, His greatness, His everlasting nature.

God is not here today and gone tomorrow. God is not a fly by night. God is not whimsical. He doesn't change and He's not changing times and customs and seasons. He's not moved with any of that. God is everlasting, from everlasting to everlasting.

And so when you talk about the almighty, He's talking about that everlasting nature from everlasting to everlasting, He is God. That's the almighty, means he is unconquerable. He's all powerful. He is all sufficient. He is eternally more than you would ever need. And this is where you get that Hebrew name for God, El Shaddai, the God of more than enough, the all sufficient one, the almighty God, the many breasted one.

And so, He speaks of His mightiness, His weightiness, His power. He has all might. There is no comparable might. He is all powerful and it speaks of His might and it speaks of His eternal nature and it speaks of his Moreness. He's more than you could other fathom, think, or ask or imagine. He's more than you would ever need or desire. God is so much more; He is so much more. He is so much more that He could never be quantified. He is a God more, much more. He is more than just when you think He is that; He is more than that. Just when you think He is that; He is more than that. And so, He is the God that's unquantifiable. This is speaking of the almighty God. The almighty.

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So, he that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. So, this is the shadow. Now the next where we're going to talk about is the shadow. You're under the shadow of the almighty. You're under the shadow of all of the most all powerful, everlasting, changeless, infinite, more than enough, all sufficient, ageless, timeless. So you're under the shadow of this and so, its reminding of you, of who you were with as you talk about this protection.

This is who you're with and then we're abiding under his shadow. The shadow means that it covers us. It covers us and it comes between us and in anything that would harm us. This shadow where you're abiding under the shadow of the almighty. God's

shadow, it over shadows you and it comes between you and anything that would harm you.

So, it's like God is over shadowing you and so if something is trying to harm you, is hitting the shadow first. That shadow overshadows you and it gets between you and anything that would harm you, runs into his shadow. He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

Now, let's go into Verse 2. Man, that was a lot in Verse 1, wouldn't it? That's just Verse 1. And I'm almost out of time. I told you it'll work. All right, let's jump into Verse 2.

"I will say of the Lord" notice this is, "I will say." This is personal application. Not anybody else. I don't care what anybody else's says, I'm telling you what I'm saying, "I will say." Notice that, you have to have your own relationship. You have to have to your own confidence in God. You have to have your own faith in God. Anyone else can say whatever they want to say, but what I will say, "I will say of the Lord. He is my refuge and my fortress: He is my God and He's the one I'm trusting." That's what I'm going to say, as far as everybody else in the world, I don't know what they're going to say but I will say, notice that. It is your personal application and it is also your confession. Hold fast your confession of faith, Hebrew tells us, "Hold fast your confession."

So, notice, you need to say it. Everybody say, "I will say." You have to say it, and so that's why Psalms 91 is so important to get it in your heart. You have to say it. You need to be saying it. You need to be declaring everyday. You need to be declaring this everyday, say it everyday, there's danger every day out there. There's danger everyday in the world. And so, this is something you have to arm yourself with everyday. I'll say it. I'll say it. I will say of the Lord. I'll say, I will say, "I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress. my God; in him will I trust."

A fortress, this is what we're saying, we're saying He's our refuge and our fortress. A fortress is a secured, strong place. AV, if you have couple of pictures, you can put it up, have a picture of a fortress. That's what a fortress looks like. Ain't that beautiful? Man, that's a rock, that's a fortress that comes out of a rock. So, a fortress is something that's build out of a rock. So, it's not easily

shaken. It's not easily moved. The wind won't blow that. The wind won't blow that. That's a fortress.

So, a fortress is something that's really built to last. It is built to withstand. It is built to be a defense. You're not going to just run up in a fortress, and so, that's why they built them. They got in places where they would build a fort, military would get in there and they got in places where they could defend and to be hard for the enemy to get in there.

You just can't run into a rock. You can't shoot an arrow into a rock. Even the canon ball is hard to do anything with a rock. And so, the military look for fortresses to get in, so they would be fortified. They will have a strong defense, something sturdy, something that will not be moved. God is our fortress. I'll say that. God is my fortress. I'll say that. I will say that he is my fortress. You're not going to move God. You'll not going to move God. He is not going to be afraid. He is not going to be shaky as a fortress. I'll say of the Lord, He is my fortress. He is my fortress. He is my fortress.

Now notice this, He's also my refuge. Refuge is a shelter, protection. It's also a fortress, it's a hope, is a place of trust. It's making the Lord your trustworthy place of shelter.

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So He is your refuge. He is your fortress. He's your shelter. I like this and the Amplified it, I'm going to get ready to close but in Amplified Bible of this verse says, "I will say of the lord. He is my refuge and my fortress, My God, on Him I lean and rely and in Him I confidently trust" because He's looking like – He's a rock. He's not going anywhere. You can lean on that. You can confidently trust in that. He's solid. He's stable. He's secure. He's permanent. He's everlasting. He's not going to be moved. We can lean on it, rely on it, trust in it.

Gosh, I wanted to read this. I had a verse I wanted to read from the Message Bible. The Message Bible actually says, "Say this" and it says, "Say this" and it went on and it actually gave the confession of the scripture. So it says, "Say this, that God is my refuge, and my fortress and I am safe." It says, "Say this." It's coming back to me now. Thank you, Holy Spirit. He says, "Say this, God is my refuge and my fortress. In him I trust, I am safe."

Let's all say it together because that's exactly what the verse said in the Message Bible. Let's say it again. Say this. Say this, "God is my refuge and fortress, in Him I trust, I am safe."

Praise God, I like that. I like that. You got to write these scriptures in your heart. You got to write them in your heart. I had gone through the bible, outlined all of Paul's Epistles, and I had it in a neat notebook then I lost the notebook. But I said, "That's okay because I have already engrafted it all in my heart." And so every day I go through it, it's already in my heart, don't need the notebook, my heart is the table. You write it on the table of your heart. Write it on the table of your heart and so that's why God wants us to get the word in us, because you don't know when the day will come when they won't allow you to have physical bibles. You never know when that day may come and all this time that you have, that you could have been putting the word in your heart and your in your spirit and memorizing and getting it in you. So if anybody ever took the bible away, they haven't taken away because it's in here now. It's the word living in you, you let the word of Christ dwell in you richly.

Praise God. In fact, I'm going to stop right here, but I'm going to attempt to quote Psalm 91. I never set out to memorize Psalm 91. I never set out to remember. It's just that I kept seeing it, kept looking at it, kept going over it and it began sticking to me. And that's the way God's word is. If you stay with it long enough, you give it enough attention, it starts sticking to you and I just love it when the word sticks to me because that saves me time. I won't have to try to memorize it. Isn't that good? Anybody excited with me? I'm going to attempt to say it. I don't know it in order, I don't know it in order from verse by verse, but I know the whole content, who cares if it's out of order, the main thing is I know it and it's in me.

He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust. A thousand will fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee. I will say of the Lord that He leads me and He delivers me, He honors me, He keeps me. No weapon or no danger would come and ensnare me or trap me. I will dwell and I will remain and I will abide under His shadow, under His power where no foe can withstand. He hides me and He keeps me. He covers me under His wings, do I trust. I say of

the Lord, He is my refuge and my strength, my God in whom I trust. Because I have set my love on Him, because I have known His name, with long life will He satisfy me and show me His salvation.

He honors me. He delivers me. He answers me when I call on Him. He lifts me on high. I will tread on the lion and the adder; the young lion and the dragon shall I trample under feet. He covers me with his feathers and under his wings do I trust. No calamity, sickness, disease, misfortune, accident shall come near me or my dwelling for He gives his angels charge over me, to keep me in all my ways. And then it goes on to say, that His angels bear me up in their hands lest I dash my foot against a stone.

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Well that's now understanding one, and so you want to spend time with it, get it down in your heart because this is our protection, it's God's word, it's our protection and we want to know it, we want to live it and we want to stay under God's protection. Praise God.

Stand to your feet and we are prepared to close out. Praise God. Let's pray. Father, we just thank you so much. Thank you for your word, Lord. Thank you for a place of refuge and a place of trust. Thank you, Lord, that we can live under your protection. We thank you for Psalms 91. Thank you, Lord, for your angels surrounding us. We thank you for the blood of Jesus that covers us. We depend on you, Lord. We trust in you. This in Jesus' mighty name we pray. Let every heart say, "Amen." Amen. Amen.

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