Psalms 91, Living Under God's Protection

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C. Elijah Bronner: There are a lot of things that are happening all around us, but we don't have to have fear of those things because we are protected.

Female: You are listening to BrothersoftheWord.com. This is part one of the series titled, "Psalms 91, Living Under God's Protection" by C. Elijah Bronner. This sermon is number 7858.

(Music Playing: 00:00:20 - 00:00:32)

Female: And now for Psalms 91, Living Under God's Protection Part 3.

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 in BrothersoftheWord.com or one of our social media channels. 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 asks Little Johnny as they wait for the bus to tell the driver he is four years old when asked because he will ride for free. As they get into the bus, the driver asked Little Johnny how old he was. "I am four years old." And when will you be six years old?" asks the driver. "When I get off the bus," answers Johnny. We are sharing Part 3, this is Part 3 of Psalms 91 "Living Under God’s Protection," Part 3, Psalms 91, "Living Under God’s Protection," Part 3. And we left off last time at verse number 4. Verse number 4 was the last verse that we covered last time. And so we'll pick up right there.

Verse 4 says that "He shall cover thee with His feathers and under His wings shalt thou trust His truth shall be thy shield and buckler." And we love the New Living Translation of that verse that says that "His faithful promises are your armor and protection." God’s faithful promises are our armor and our protection. I love that. I love the fact that we have protection in this world. We have armor in this world. I thought about the imagery of, I don’t know, how many of you all have watched any of the Avenger movies? Well, my favorite Avenger is Iron Man and I just love his armor. He has updated armor. He has updated armor. And that was one of the movies where he was about to fall out of a window, he merely held his hand up and he didn’t have his suit of armor on, but when he held his hand up, that armor came flying to him and it began to attach itself to
every part of his body until it completely covered him. And once it covered him, he was able to fly.

And so I said, "Man, I like that. That's the way we are armed. God's word is our armor and our protection." So that's how we suit up. God's word is a suit of protection for us as we live this life on this Earth. We are protected. God's word is our armor and our protection. Say that with me, "God's word is my armor and my protection." Praise God. And now, we'll start where we left off. We're going to pick up with verse 5. Verse 5 says, "Do not be afraid of the terrors of the night nor the arrow that flies in the day." Verse 6, "Do not dread the disease that stalks in darkness nor the disaster that strikes at mid-day." Now, I love these two verses here because these two verses, they render God's protection for all times of the day, so it covers morning, it covers noon. It covers afternoon. It covers evening, and it covers night. And so He specifically goes through all parts of the day to let us know that God's protection is at work 24 hours a day.

So during the whole day, throughout the whole day, be mindful of God's protection. It's on you in the morning. It's on you at noonday. It's on you in the afternoon. It's on you in the evening. It's on you at night. And so it goes through the contrast of the different times of the day. It also covers light when you can see and it covers dark when you can't see. That protection is even working even when you can't see. Praise God. So the reason it's working when you can't see because the dangers will try to creep up on you and hide in the darkness. And so I love this protection that we receive at night because it protects us even when you can't see the dangers that are lurking, trying to creep up on you. Praise God. Their protection is working. Their protection is working.

A friend of mine told me he was at a red light one time and he said that a gentleman came up to his window and was asking him for some directions or something. And he said, my friend who was driving the car, he said he knew this was a scheme and he said he looked in his passenger mirror and he saw another guy bent down creeping up along the side of his car. So he knew that he was in an ambush situation. So he said he immediately maxed the gas and drove off and just left both of them standing there. Well, that's God's protection. So even when things start
to creep up on you at night, praise God, God’s protection, God’s protection is at work.

I love the way that Psalms 91 covers the whole day. It covers the whole day and we got to be mindful of that during the whole day. So not only it covers is in the daytime but it covers us at night. It also covers all different types of dangers. And so this is referring to whether it’s thieves or robbers or it’s also covering natural disasters or whether it’s a storm or earthquake or fire. It also covers disease, plagues. And so this is giving entire coverage of any type of harm, any type of danger. It even covers plots and slanders. And so when people are plotting against you, that’s actually one of the references where it says "the arrow that flies by day," one translation is actually referring to plots and slanders that people will plot against you. God’s protection, coverage covers you. Man, God’s protection is like an insurance policy. It covers you. It’s covered in the policy.

So Psalms 91 is like reading the coverage of an insurance policy. We're recovered. Turn to your neighbor and say, "We're covered. We're covered. We're covered. We are covered." So it covers natural calamities. It covers disease. It covers plagues. It covers fire. It's all covered under God’s protection policy. So I just love that. I love that. Notice this, if you look at verse 5 again, it says, "Do not be afraid of the terrors of the night." So notice this, so not only does Psalms 91 keep us safe from evil; it actually keeps us safe even from the fear of evil. So it says, "Do not be afraid," so it doesn’t even want you to fear. So it protects us against fear. It guards against fear. So God doesn’t even want us to have fear as we go through life. And so He removes the fear. Psalms 91 removes the fear out of our lives.

We don’t have to fear these things. There are a lot of things that are happening all around us, but we don’t have to have fear of those things because we're covered, because we are protected. His word is our armor and our protection. We are covered. It's covered under the policy. It's covered under His coverage. We don’t have to fear. We don’t have to fear because we are covered. So notice that, "Don’t be afraid." So we're not even to have the fear. We’re not even to be afraid or have fear concerning any danger or calamity or plague or disease or pestilence or any storm or earthquake. No, God covers His people God protects His people.
Now, let's look at verse 7. Verse 7 says, "A thousand shall fall at thy side and ten thousand at thy right hand, but it shall not come nigh thee." "Only with thine eyes," verse 8, "Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked. So notice this, people will fall at our left hand and right hand, but it won't come near us. We'll only see it. So here, God is distinguishing His people who are under this covenant or protection. He's distinguishing us from everyone else. And so God gives us a distinguishing mark of protection. If you recall under the Old Testament, they put blood on the doorposts and that was a distinguishing mark so that death would not come near God's people. And so God put a distinguishing mark on the doorposts. They were covered by the blood of the lamb.

And so here, this is very similar type of protection that they will fall all around you, but it will not come near you. You've been covered by the blood of Jesus. You are covered by the blood of Jesus. And so we have a distinguishing protection as believers, as children of God, and then even more specifically when you're dwelling in the secret place, when you made God your refuge and your habitation, you're dwelling in the secret place of the Most High and abiding under the shadow of the Almighty. That's the prerequisite for this protection in Psalms 91. And we'll talk more about that a little later.

Let me read verse 7 and 8 in some other translations in The Message Bible, it says, "Even though others succumb all around, drop like flies right and left, no harm will even graze you. You'll stand untouched, watch it all from a distance." The Amplified Bible says it this way "A thousand may fall at your side and ten thousand at your right hand, but danger will not come near you. You will only be a spectator as you look on with your eyes and witness the divine repayment of the wicked as you watch safely from the shelter of the Most High." Praise God. Praise God.

So notice that. So we are protected. We're distinguished. So God makes a distinction between His people under this covenant of protection and everyone else and we'll be able to see it, but it won't come near us. Praise God. Praise God. And now, let's go to verse 9. Verse 9 says that "Because thou has made the Lord, which is my refuge, even the Most High thy habitation," so there's that qualifier again. We see it here in verse 9. We also saw it in the first couple of verses of Psalms 91. "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." So we see that refuge. We see the dwelling in the secret place under the shadow of the Almighty. So we see that refuge in Psalms 1 and 2. Here it is, it shows up again in verse 9 "Because you made the Lord, which is my refuge, and even the Most High they habitation."

So there it is again, so you made God your dwelling place. You may God your home. You’re living in God in other words. You’re living in God. You made him your refuge. Now refuge, it means a shelter, it means protection, it means of fortress. It means a hope. It means a place of trust. You’ve made the Lord your trustworthy place of shelter. It means that you have this constant communion and fellowship with Him. It means that you are at home in God, you’re resting in Him. You’re trusting Him. You’re loving Him. You’re delighting in Him. You’re walking closely with Him throughout the day and when we do that, we into this sheltered place of protection.

Because you made the Lord your refuge, even the Most High your habitation. You made Him your place of trust. You made Him your fortress. You made Him your stronghold. You place your trust and confidence in Him and you do well, you live in Him. You hid in Christ. You live in Him. You live inside of Him. Now, as a result of that, notice this, so that’s the prerequisite, that’s the prerequisite if you will, as a result of that prerequisite, look what happens in verse 10. "There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling." There shall no evil befall you, neither shall any plague come near your dwelling.

Dwelling now is reference to not only you, but that’s a reference to your whole household. So this covers your family and so now you can bring in your whole family under this shelter. It won’t come near your household. It won’t come near your dwelling. And so there’s a family protection that we are able to engage here in verse 10. "There shall no evil befall you, neither shall any plague, pestilence or disease," neither shall any plague or virus or germ, neither shall any plague come near thy dwelling. There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come near thy dwelling. So it makes reference to your family.

Now, it tells you why. Verse 11, "For He shall give His angels charge over thee." He gives His angels charge over thee to keep
thee in all thy ways. They shall bear thee up in their hands lest thou dash thy foot against a stone. Let me read some other translations of that in the Amplified Bible. It says, "Because you have made the Lord your refuge and the Most High your dwelling place, there shall no evil befall you nor any plague or calamity come near your tent for He will give His angels," and the Amplified puts it this way, "for He will give His angels a special charge over you to accompany and defend and preserve you in all your ways of obedience and service," because you're in the secret place, because you're dwelling in the secret place of the Most High.

You're abiding under the shadow of the Almighty and because you made the Lord your refuge, you made the Most High your habitation. Well, this is what happens; no evil will come near you know, no plague will come near your dwelling because He gives His angels a special charge over you. You realize that God literally had a talk with the angels and gave them command concerning you. God says, "Look Angels," He had a staff meeting. He said, "Look here, Angels, these are my kids. They're very special to me. They are the apple of my eye. They're the treasure of my heart and I want you to protect them. I want you to accompany them. I want you to defend them. I want you to preserve them. You don't let any harm come near my kids." He had a talk with angels. He had a talk with the angels and gave them charge and the angels, they're under God's command. So He has given them charge over us.

Now, look at verse 12, "They shall bear you up in their hands lest you dash your foot against a stone." Let me read another one. This is The Message Bible, it says, "Yes, because God's your refuge, the high God your very own home, evil can't get close to you, harm can't get through the door." He ordered His angels to guard you wherever you go. If you stumble, they'll catch you. Their job is to keep you from falling. I love that. I love that.

One day, I had gotten out of the shower or the tub, I can't remember which one it was, might have been taking a hot bubble bath that day. I can't remember, but anyway, I can't remember if I was getting out of the shower. I think I was getting out of the tub. Every so often, I take a hot bubble bath when I want to distress or if I have beaten a lot of young guys in
basketball and I want to soak my muscles a little bit. So I'll take a hot bath on those occasions.

But I was getting out of my hot bubble bath and water has splashed on the floor. And so with my foot hit, both of my feet went up in the air and now, here's the funny part. I landed on my feet. So I landed standing up. I never fell and I immediately thought back, I said, "Did I pray and confess Psalms 91 this morning?" And I say, "Yes, I did, I did." And I rejoiced because I realize His angels had kept me from falling. Praise. Can somebody give God praise right there?

His angels kept me from falling. I literally landed and my feet went from under me. Now I know I'm a great athlete so I don't know if it was just my skill, but I think it was beyond just my normal skills. I believe the angels caught me and landed me on my... Well, you know, that's their job, is to keep us from falling. Praise God. And so anyway, when that incident happened and I realize I didn't fall, I said, "Wow! I prayed Psalms 91 this morning. His angels are on duty. His angels are on duty." Praise God. Man, what confidence that this gives us to know that God’s angels are on duty in our lives. It gives us great confidence to know that wherever you go, they’ll accompany you to preserve you, to defend you, and protect you in all your ways.

This is saying no matter where you’re traveling, whether you're at work, whether you're at the mall or whether you're at the store or whether you’re at your kids' school, whether you’re at the park, whether you’re at the beach, whether you're on an airplane, whether you're on a bus, whether you're in a car, whether you’re riding a bicycle, whether you’re on a skateboard or skates, it doesn’t matter. In all your ways, these angels have been given charge over you, to protect you and to keep you from falling. And so His angels are with us. So it gives us such a great confidence and support.

I took the time to read some testimonies of people who had recognized where angels had intervened in their lives and protected them. And I've read some incredible testimonies that I wish I had time to go through all of them, but they were just so interesting. I was reading about one set of college girls. They said that they were walking late at night. They were near the edge of their college campus, but they heard some noise behind them and they say when they looked behind them, they saw a
few suspicious looking guys that were trailing them. And they said that they sped up, and they said when they sped up, the guys sped up. And they crossed the intersection and they said that it looks like the guys were gaining on them and they said that they were just nervous and they began to pray. They said after they prayed, they looked back and there were three big college football players in uniform standing between them and the suspicious guys that were trailing them before.

They said when the suspicious guys saw the three football players, they ran the other direction. They just left them and ran off, and the girls rejoiced because of the football players and they said, "Thank God our football team showed up." And they said as they walked further, they stopped and said, "Wait a minute. Our college doesn't have a football team." And they realized that those were angels, those were angels who had shown up. And so I have so many of those that I read that were just fascinating.

I was reading about one man, he said he was in a gas station. He said this guy attacked him in a gas station. He was able to free himself from the guy, but he said another gentleman who was there grabbed the guy, threw him out the store and helped him and his wife get to their car and he followed them until they were safe. And he said the next day, when he gave the police report and so forth, he told the police exactly what happened, how this other guy had assisted and throwing the guy out and ran the guy off and helped them get to their car, and then he followed them until they were safe. He said when he told the police there, he said the police had reviewed the video footage and the footage showed that there was no other person on the footage. And the man and his wife said, "That’s impossible. We saw the man throw the man out and helped us and got us to safety." But when they replayed the video footage, there was no other man, and they realized that an angel had been there to protect them.

And the guy, the good man... God's angels will show up in all various informed and all various ways, but they are present to assist us. They are present to defend us. They are present to preserve us. They are present to protect us. And He's given His angels charge over us and so it's an exciting thought. But anyway, I have so many of those stories that I read and they were just phenomenal. Just really, it encouraged me. You
know, I see it here in the Word so I know it’s true but to hear the reality of it, it just excites me all the more that you have angels with you.

A lot of people don’t believe simply because they can’t see them. Well, you can’t see God either but you know He’s there. And so you’re dealing with an invisible realm, you’re dealing with an invisible realm. However, this invisible realm has the ability to manifest in this physical realm and angels do that. So angels will show up and they can show up seen. They can also show up unseen.

I was reading about one pastor. He said that he was holding a tent revival and he said this irate man stood up and said that "I need to see you outside. I need to see you outside the tent." So the Pastor said okay, and so they went outside and he said this man reached in his back and pulled a dagger out. And he said he took his arm back and he drew down to stab the pastor. The pastor said the blade came to about six inches and stopped. He said the man pulled his arm back and he did it three times and each time, it stopped six inches away. The man finally just ran off.

Well, a few nights later, about a week later at that same revival, that man came back and gave his life to the Lord and the Pastor said, "You know, I'm surprised." The man said, "Yeah." He said, "The reason I'm giving my life to the Lord," he said, "I tried to kill you several nights ago," and he said, "I swung with all my might to stab you." And he said, "My blade kept hitting something six inches from you and I couldn’t get through it." And he said, "I figured that was God protecting you." And he said, "Because I have seen God’s protection on your life, I want to give my life to Christ." And that man came back to get born again and receive Christ Jesus as his Lord.

Isn't that exciting to know angels are with us all the time? So they can manifest visibly and/or they can do their work invisibly. You know, they don't have to be seen to do their work and so they can do it invisibly. They can do it visibly. So sometimes, they show up and they may look just like an ordinary man or woman or whatever, but they get the job done. They're on assignment. They’d been given orders by God. They’ve been sent to minister for us as Heirs of Salvation. You’ll find that in Hebrews, Chapter 1, I believe, maybe verse 14, but
they’ve been sent to minister for us. They’ve been sent to minister for us.

Anyway, I read so many wonderful testimonies how angels had intervened. I was reading one account where this airplane was having mechanical trouble and the man said he looked out both windows and he said he looked out and there was an angel on each wing that brought that plane safely home, brought it safely to the landing. And I just read one after another and I said, "Man, this is so exciting. This is so encouraging to know that God has given His angels charge over us to keep us in all our ways." Praise God. Praise God. I’m going to stop right now. I’m out of time, but I tell you what, everybody stand in your feet. Let’s read Psalms 91 together. We will read it together.

We'll read it together and next week, we'll be able to finish up Psalms 91, only have about four verses left. So we'll finish that up next time. And also, I'm going to order everybody a Psalms 91 card so that you can stick these in your windows. You can stick them in your windows at home. You can stick them in your car, wherever, where we want to put some visible reminders just to remind the devil that we are under God’s protection. Let's read Psalms 91 real quick. We'll read it all in unison. I normally recite it by memory, but I don’t feel like it tonight. So we're going to just read it. We're going to just read it altogether.

Verse 1, ready? Let's read. "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. Surely, He shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler and from the noisome pestilence. He shall cover thee with His feathers and under His wings shalt thou trust. His truth shall be thy shield and buckler. Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night nor for the arrow that flieth by day nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday. A thousand shall fall at thy side and ten thousand at thy right hand, but it shall not come nigh thee. Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked because thou has made the Lord which is my refuge, even the Most High my habitation, there shall no evil befall thee neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling for He shall give His angels charge over thee to keep thee in all thy ways."
"They shall bear thee up in their hands lest thou dash thy foot against a stone. Thou shalt tread upon the lion and adder, the young lion and the dragon shalt thou trample under feet. 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, he shall call upon me and I will answer him. I will be with him in trouble. I will deliver him and honor him with long life will I satisfy him and show him my salvation." Praise God. Give the Lord a shout of praise. Amen. Amen. Amen. Praise God. Praise God. Praise God. That’s our protection. That’s our covenant of protection.

Let's pray. Father, we just love you. We praise you. We rejoice in you. We give you thanks. We’re excited. Lord, we're grateful that you love us so much, Lord, that you’ve given your angels charge over to keep us, that you’ve given charge to protect us and defend us and preserve us wherever we go. We thank you that your word is our armor and our protection, Lord, and we release our faith in you and in your word. And we thank you, Lord, for the assignment of angels that are active and alive and alert in our lives. And we love you and praise you, Lord, and in Jesus’ name we pray. Let every heart say amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen.

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