**Week of February 24, 2019**

**Psalm 91:1-8, 11-16**

1 He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. 2 I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust. 3 Surely, he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence. 4 He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler. 5 Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day; 6 Nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday. 7 A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee. 8 Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked. 9 Because thou hast made the LORD, which is my refuge, even the most High, thy habitation; 10 There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling. 11 For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways. 12 They shall bear thee up in their hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone. 13 Thou shalt tread upon the lion and adder: the young lion and the dragon shalt thou trample under feet. 14 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. 15 He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him. 16 With long life will I satisfy him and shew him my salvation. **Understanding the Scriptures**

In today’s lesson, the psalmist focuses on God’s guaranteed protection. In verses 1-2, the psalmist trust God to be his shelter and protective care. Three names of God are used to emphasize His greatness and capable nature to assist in the time of trouble. The first name used is “Most High,” which derives God’s strength and sovereignty. Next, he uses the word “Almighty,” which conveys God as the active, self-existent one. Then, he uses the work “God.” Which denotes the strong, might leader and supreme deity. The believer who rests in the protection the God can expect to find shelter under His divine care. The Psalmist declares that God is his refuge and fortress, which means he depends on God to protect him in the midst of adversity.

In verses three through 13, the psalmist describes the protection he is sure to receive from God. The psalmist portrays God as a rescuer, one who will literally protect him from any trap of the enemy he may encounter. Like an eagle protects his young, God will cover believers with His sovereign protection and keep them from harm. Because of unwavering confidence in God, the psalmist is settled by peace, knowing God has everything under control. Numerous attacks may come against the believer, but God is able to keep any of the attacks from coming near his people. The psalmist is convinced even more that God will keep His beliers out of the hands of enemies, and nothing will destroy them, because God’s shield of protection will be a hedge of protection for them all. Angels will also paly a role in God’s plan to protect us.

Verses 14-16 declare that God will deliver the person who honors him. God is not the speaker here. God Himself confirms that the believe who loves God will, in turn be delivered by Him. Furthermore, God vows to t answer whenever a believer needs him and calls upon His name. Lastly, God promises that the believer will live a long and full life and He will give him/her salvation and the gift of eternal peace.

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