



The Protection of Those Who Trust in God

Psalm 91 – Part 3

Surely He shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the perilous pestilence.

Ps 91:3

Though written approximately 3,000 years ago, how timely the Word of God is to us today!

“Surely He shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler.”

Back in the day, a “fowler” was a trapper and/or a trap used to snare birds (fowl). Here the Psalmist paints a word picture of God’s protection and care for His people. God promises to deliver (or rescue or save) us from the snare or trap of any current day “fowler.” As we were compared to “sheep” in the 23rd Psalm, here we’re shown to be like birds which were weak and (like sheep) dumb and didn’t know any better than to let themselves be trapped. The truth is, today WE have a cunning Enemy (fowler) who wants to lure God’s people to their destruction too.

The “fowler” back then (like our Enemy today) worked in secret and changed his traps and methods constantly. Today’s Fowler can, and often does, entice us with pleasure or profit and sometimes tries to lead us astray by using a decoy. But regardless of the skill of the fowler, God promises to help you and I avoid the traps all together, or to be delivered or rescued, if needed.

The Psalmist seems to make this very personal with his use of “you” – and ultimately each of we children of God MUST remain close to the Lord in order to hear His comforting voice and His wise guidance away from the traps of life.

And from the perilous pestilence. (Again, how timeless is God’s Word and timely today in life’s current “perilous pestilence.”)

God also can protect His children in times of plague and disease. The promise is not an absolute promise that God’s children will NEVER get sick or even die from some disease; but He has provided his sovereign protection for His children countless times over many millennia.

G. Campbell Morgan – a notable preacher from the past – said it this way: “Children of God are not always immune from physical plague and pestilence; but they are ever guarded from destructive spiritual forces as they dwell in the secret place of the Most High.”

During the 15th century plague that ravaged London, Lord Craven, a Christian, was preparing to leave the city by carriage for the country in order to be – in his mind – less likely to catch it. He overheard one of his employees say, “I suppose by my lord’s quitting London to avoid the plague that his God lives in the country and not in town.” God stirred Craven’s mind and he canceled his trip and said, “My God lives everywhere and can preserve me in town as well as in the country. I will stay where I am.” He stayed in London, cared for the sick and did not catch the plague himself.

Prayer: Lord, thank YOU for caring about ME. Thank you for the protection and guidance that You offer me. Help me to listen carefully to Your voice and Your words. Remind me regularly to “Be still, and know that You are God.” Help me to live in faith and not in fear. Amen.