



The Protection of Those Who Trust in God

Psalm 91 – Part 4

He will cover you with His pinions, and under His wings, you may seek refuge; His faithfulness is a shield and bulwark. Ps 91:4

The Psalmist continues his word picture by sharing how God is like a mother bird who hides and protects her young under her wings as those strong pinions can protect against the wind, the cold, predators, and more.

Most baby birds know instinctively to seek refuge with their momma bird and those firm, completely protective wings of hers. Perhaps you remember a time or two (or more) when you were young and your mother or father provided similar protection, covering, and comfort to you.

Children, like most animals on the planet, instinctively turn to their parents in times of need. We who are followers of Jesus should turn to our Heavenly Father in times of trouble too. What a wonderful blessing it is to be able to call Him – as Jesus taught us – “Our Father who art in heaven.” The disciples didn’t quite understand the full impact of that revolutionary way to pray,

but never before in the history of God's people were they invited to call Almighty God, "Father." But then, Jesus came – and that changed everything!

His faithfulness is a shield and bulwark.

One of the recurring themes in Scripture is that our God is FAITHFUL. Here in this fantastic Psalm, we learn that his faithfulness is like a shield and a bulwark. Other translations say a "shield and a buckler" (NKJV) or "shield and a wall" (AMP) or "shield and a rampart" (NIV) or "armor and protection" (NLT). Each of these translations from Hebrew gives a slightly fuller understanding of what the author meant.

The shield – is just that, a SHIELD. Able to deflect weapons, arrows, swords, rocks, or other implements intended to harm. On the other hand, the bulwark (or buckler, wall, rampart, protection, fortress) provides even MORE protection than the shield alone. It shows the additional strength that God supplies – a double shielding of sorts. Think for a moment: If someone were throwing rocks at you, where would you want to go? For me, no question: I'll go behind the WALL.

God is offering His children that (wall) and more (shield). He wants us protected.

Remember the overall theme of this Psalm: "The protection for those who trust in God." These verses offer protection at its finest!

Prayer: Lord, I'll admit, I need protection some times. I am certainly unaware of ALL the times YOU have protected me under "your wing" and behind Your "shield" and "wall." I may not recall all the times... but I know You well enough to know that number is WAY higher than I can imagine now. Anyway, Lord, I am appreciative and thankful! Amen.