



The May 13, 2020 edition of TruNorth Daily Devotional with Dr Jim Brown:

**“Learning life from the Psalms of David.”**

**Psalm 31**

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Psalm 31:1

***“In You, O LORD, I have taken refuge; Let me never be ashamed; In Your righteousness deliver me.”***

(Psalm 31 is an interesting Psalm. Written as a song by David... parts of it are quoted in a variety of places: by Jonah, Jeremiah, Paul, in Psalm 71, and also by Jesus when on the cross.)

Today is May 13 and it is springtime. My wife, Debbie, and I have been watching the progress of a mother hummingbird. From building her nest, to two eggs, to two babies who have grown now to be nearly ready to leave the nest. This mother hummingbird, who built her nest in a short, potted tree next to our back patio door and under our patio cover, is not happy that we come in and out as often as we do. None-the-less, she seems to be taking excellent care of her

brood and they have grown rapidly and in safety. She protects, cares for, and feeds her babies instinctually because that is who she is.

In this Psalm, David begins by talking about the **LORD** as his place of safety and refuge, because, that is Who God is.

Other translations say: ***“put my trust” -- “come to you for protection” -- “my hiding place” -- “I have placed my trust and taken refuge.”***

Clearly, David is again stating, that he TRUSTS God in times of trouble (and David seems to have had many such times).

The phrase ***“Let me never be ashamed”*** is a bold request by David to never be let down by God. To never be ashamed before his adversaries.

***“In Your righteousness deliver me.”*** Another translation (NLT) says: “Save me, for you do what is right.”

Remember: only God is righteous – right-doing – ALL the time. Other people will let you down, but God is good – ALL the time. He can do no wrong. He does not sin. He makes no mistakes. It is WHO He is.

Do you sometimes question that? Have you sometimes wondered why X, Y, or Z happened? Even after you prayed? Even after you fasted? Even after your family and friends and church prayed?

Disappointments in life – which are part of the human experience – are challenges to our growing and maturing in Christ. We all want heaven NOW, but where we are now (planet earth) is NOT heaven. Eventually we’ll have a new heaven and a new earth, but not yet.

Thus David, like our little hummingbirds, is taking refuge. Not in a tree under a covered patio, but in the **LORD**, his God. David had grown to the point where he knew that God could protect him and be his refuge, his hiding place and keep his enemies from succeeding in bringing him to shame.

***Prayer: LORD, I need You to be my refuge, my hiding place and my protection. Please take care of me, quench ALL my fears and anxieties. For you are the only Righteous One I can count on to do what is right ALL of the time. Amen.***