

One of the big questions of life is where is our security? When you find yourself in troubling times and situations, where do you find your security? The only true answer to that is God. God is our security. When all is said and done, the One to Whom we may turn in times of danger, exposure, attack and vulnerability is God. He has never failed His people and He never will.

There are times when we find ourselves in scary situations, even under attack. There is a very real and unseen adversary who is seeking to destroy. He may attack through something physical, something emotional, something financial, something spiritual and when those attacks come, we need Psalm 91. One doctor said this Psalm is the best preservative ever written for people who are sick.

One of the things we must face while living in this world is there are times when we do face some intimidating enemy. We also realize that God is able to wipe out any enemy at any time He wants. There have been instances in Scripture when God did that. For example, God literally destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah and all the cities of the valley by sending fire and brimstone directly from heaven (Gen. 19:24-25).

So what we have to ask ourselves and certainly what Israel should ask herself is if God has the power to destroy these enemies, then why doesn't He do it? At the moment we believe on Jesus Christ why doesn't God wipe out all of our enemies that would try to prevent our spiritual progress? We know that Jesus specifically prayed that we would not be taken out of the world (John 17:15) but that we be kept from the evil one. But why doesn't God just remove the evil one?

What we must conclude is that God knows we need enemies in our world from time to time because those enemies will actually help us grow closer to God. By having some negatives in our world, we actually learn things about God we would not learn without the negatives. What this Psalm teaches us is that:

**GOD CAN USE NEGATIVE THINGS IN OUR LIVES TO TAKE US TO A DEEPER RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM IN WHICH WE ARE ABLE TO SEE GOD DO GREAT THINGS, AND WE LEARN WE ARE SECURE.**

If we will purpose to draw close to the Lord during times of trouble, we will discover that God will always prove to be faithful. He will show Himself strong. Our relationship can be strengthened.

Now in **verses 1-2**, it is important to observe the names that God gives to Himself in these verses. He identifies Himself as "the Most High"; "the Almighty"; Jehovah (LORD); the sovereign I AM; and "God" (Elohim), the self-existing, all powerful Creator.

So the potential exists for a believer to actually have a personal relationship with this Almighty, Powerful, Sovereign God, that He is using all of his attributes and power to do wonderful things with and for His people.

Now the thing we want to grasp here is what do we have to do to have this amazing God on our side? What do we have to do in order to have the Most High, Almighty, Sovereign God do great things for us?

Well there are at least three conditions that are stated that we must meet:

**Condition #1** - We must dwell in the shelter of the Most High. **91:1a**

Now the point of this is that we must be in close fellowship with God if we are to expect God to do good things for us. The idea of “dwelling” with God or “living” with God is the idea of having a good relationship with God.

Now one must abide in the “shelter” that God has provided. If we put this into N.T. doctrine, what this means is that we must first have a faith in Jesus Christ and then we must purpose to know and apply the Word of God in order to maintain fellowship with God.

**Condition #2** - We must develop a trust in God. **91:2b**

If we are to expect that we will see God do some great things, then we must learn to develop a trust in Him. This is not a trust in us; this is a trust in Him.

**Condition #3** - We must have a love for God. **91:14**

We need to develop a love for God. We need to cling affectionately to God and His Word.

Now if we are willing to meet these conditions, then there are some amazing results we may expect to see when we are experiencing negative things:

**RESULT #1** – God will be our refuge and fortress. **91:2a**

Notice God does not say He will provide this; He is this. We need to learn this and know this. A refuge is a place of rest and a fortress is a place of defense. God is both for His people.

**RESULT #2** – God will be our trust. **91:2b**

Our trust is not in ourselves. Our trust is not in our works or our ability. Our trust is in God. The word trust means we may put all of the weight on God.

**RESULT #3** – God will be our deliverer. **91:3**

Now there are those who are out to trap us and do deadly things against us. Those who dwell in a close relationship with God have nothing to fear because God delivers them. He will snatch them away from that which could enslave them or destroy them.

**RESULT #4** – God will cover us. **91:4a**

Just as a mother bird covers her young with her wings, so God tenderly and carefully covers us so that evil cannot touch us. This is so good to know.

**RESULT #5** – God will be a shield to us. **91:4b**

God is our defense shield. Now notice that God is a shield to us by His faithfulness.

**RESULT #6** – God will take away our fear. **91:5-6**

When we are in a right relationship with God, we do not live our lives in fear because God is watching over us and watching out for us. God wants us to learn that He is our security in troubling and fearful times. He is the One who can take away our fear.

**RESULT #7** – God will give us His protection. **91:7**

Those who maintain a close relationship with God may see many fall; but he will not fall. As one commentator said, the believer who is right with God is “invincible until his or her time is up.”

**RESULT #8** – God will let you see the destruction of your enemy. **91:8-9**

Faithful people are secure. They watch as God eventually pours out His wrath on enemies. But even though this is happening, one faithful to God realizes God is our refuge.

**RESULT #9** – God will not let evil or plagues near you. **91:10**

The theology here is interesting because obviously God is in sovereign control over things that are evil and even plagues. He can authorize evil things and plagues to hit certain people and He also can prevent those things from happening. Now this is talking about life/death stuff. God protects His people.

**RESULT #10** – God will give angelic protection. **91:11-12**

That word “charge” is one that means God does give angels appointed commands and assignments. One of their jobs is to “guard” us in all our ways and to “bear us up” so that we are kept safe (i.e. Matt. 18:10).

This is one of the passages that does teach us that we have guardian angels. Every believer is guaranteed to have the protection of angels. Those angels so watch over faithful people that they do not even stub their toes.

These were verses that Satan quoted in tempting Jesus (Matt. 4:6). Satan urged Jesus to take these words literally and jump off the top of the Temple in Jerusalem.

**RESULT #11** – God will give you victory over enemies. **91:13**

The point here is that God protects His people from all kinds of dangers. Jesus used this very verse in sending His own apostles out to preach (Luke 10:19). The point is that God would take care of them as they were doing God's will.

**RESULT #12** – God will give you deliverance. **91:14a**

This begins the "I" section in this Psalm. God wants us to understand how personal He is to each of us. In the final three verses the pronoun "I" is used six times. God is in the business of personally delivering people who love Him.

**RESULT #13** – God will give you exaltation. **91:14b**

God elevates and raises up people who love Him and His Word. In the end, those who loved God will be elevated.

**RESULT #14** – God will answer your prayers. **91:15a**

Almighty God answers the prayers of faithful people who trust Him and depend on Him.

**RESULT #15** – God will be with you in every moment of trouble. **91:15b**

Times of trouble are wonderful times to turn to the Lord.

**RESULT #16** – God will rescue you and honor you. **91:15c**

God does not just rescue those who need it; He ends up honoring them.

**RESULT #17** – God will give you satisfaction in a long life. **91:16a**

**RESULT #18** – God will let you see His salvation. **91:16b**

God takes care of His people all the way through life and then in the end, He lets them actually see and behold His salvation and His Savior.

Now in order for us to see these results, we need a right relationship with God and we need negatives in life. We need some enemies so that we can see God do some wonderful things with us and for us. That is the point of this Psalm.