

FEATURE ARTICLE: "A Big Problem Solved"

WARNING: You are entering the "TRUTH ZONE". You may not like what you read. At times it may make you feel uncomfortable. That is not my goal. My goal is to speak truth that will provide spiritual guidance for you and your family in a time of great spiritual darkness.

You can be sure that what you read here will be TRUTH!

We would all like to believe that our status as children of the King should mean that our life will always be blue skies and puppy dogs, but that is not how life works. We do not have immunity from trials and tests and no matter how great our faith, sooner or later we all battle sickness, disease, and death.

While pastoring we were often called upon to help people who were going through these difficult situations. As we walked with them they often expressed that during their greatest trial they couldn't seem to sense the presence of God and felt like their prayers were bouncing off the ceiling. Some even said that they felt abandoned by God. This was troubling so I set out to try and find out why people experience such feelings and how to fix the problem.

I made very little progress until I personally faced a very dark situation. Like everyone else, the first thing I did was cry out for God's help. I wasn't even sure what His help would look like; I just knew I needed Him. Then one morning in my quiet time I clearly heard the Lord impress on me these words, "**Stay under the shadow of my wings.**" That was all He said. He didn't tell me to, "**Get under the shadow of His wings.**" He just said, "**Stay under the shadow of my wings.**" Immediately I was reminded of Psalm 91.

Psalm 91:1 KJV

1 He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High **shall abide** under the shadow of the Almighty.

As I meditated on this I began to get some insight into why people going through a dark trial often feel like God is a million miles away. They feel this way because at some point they stopped

"**living**" under the shadow of His wings, so naturally, when the storms came they felt uncovered, unprotected, and abandoned. God did not abandon them, but they failed to live every day under the shadow of the Almighty.

Everything feels so different when we live under the shadow of His wings.

Psalm 91:2-7 KJV

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.

This is what dwelling under the shadow of His wings looks and feels like. There is complete trust and confidence and there is absolutely no fear! Fear is a sure sign you have moved out from under the shadow of His wings.

So often Miss Linda and I have seen the truth of scripture clearly displayed in nature. On the next page is a photo we took when a torrential rain storm caught a Mallard duck and her babies beside a lake late one afternoon. It was fantastic to see her sit down, spread her wings, and have her chicks run to her for protection. She didn't need to go looking for her chicks, they were close and instinctively came running.

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This all seems so natural, and yet what birds do naturally, we humans find so difficult. Why? Could it be that we have a relationship problem? In nature, we have observed that baby birds **always** try to stay as close to their mother as possible. When a storm comes they are close enough that within seconds they are able to get under her wings.

By contrast, when things are sunshine and roses, we tend to feel no need to stay close to our God. Then when the storm arises we frantically are left searching for Him. We feel abandoned and fail to understand that we are the ones who created this situation and that the only way this can be changed is for us to learn to **dwell** in the secret place of the most high.

What I am trying to say is that God never intended for us to view Him as an emergency option. God does not live in a red box that says, "**IN CASE OF EMERGENCY BREAK GLASS.**" Get close to Him when the sun is shining and you will find it much easier to get under the shadow of His wings when the storm breaks.



**Never forget..
You are safe under the shadow of His wings!**

AND THAT MY FRIENDS IS THE TRUTH!