

Ultimate Safety

Psalm 91

- a reassuring psalm, vs7-10
- too good to be true?

Understanding the Psalm

- *its historical setting vs 3-10*
 - *rooted in the Exodus*
Ex 8.22-23; 9.4-7,26; 10.22-23
- *its contemporary application*
 - *trust God now as then vs 1-3*
- *its ultimate fulfilment vs 14-16*
 - *awaits the age to come*

Features of the Psalm

- *it complements Psalm 90*
 - God's judgement →*
 - God's protection*
 - God's transcendence →*
 - God's immanence*
- *its poetic parallelism v1*

1. The Perils We Face

- *man-made and natural v3*
 - *snares, diseases*
- *hidden and open vs5-6*
 - *at night, by day*
- *self-inflicted and unprovoked*
 - *accidents, attacks vs 12-13*
- *physical and spiritual v13*
Gen 3.1; 1 Pet 5.8

2. The Protection God Offers

- *Four striking names v1-2*
 - *the Most High - supreme*
 - *the Almighty - omnipotent*
 - *the Lord - loyal to covenant*
 - *my God - personal*

2. The Protection God Offers

- **Seven vivid metaphors vs1-4**
 - **a shelter – our true home v1**
 - **a shadow – relief from heat v1**
 - **a refuge – from storms v2**
 - **a fortress – against attack v2**
 - **a mother bird – tender care v4**
 - **a shield – for mobility v4**
 - **a rampart – immovable v4**

3. The Steps We Must Take

- ***No licence to be reckless v9-11***
Luke 4.9-12; Dt 6.16
 - ***be at home with God v1,9***
Ps 27.4-5; 62.1
 - ***trust in God v2; Prov 3-5-6***
 - ***cling to God v14***
 - ***get to know God v14***
 - ***pray to God v15***

4. The Pledge God Makes

- *I will ...*

- *rescue v14;*

- *raise up v14; Eph 2.6*

- *answer v15;*

- *be with you in trouble v15;*

- *deliver v15; honour v15;*

- *satisfy with eternal life v16;*

- *show my salvation v16*

John 17.24