

Living Surrounded by God

In a world filled with uncertainty and spiritual warfare, believers need to understand the incredible protection God has placed around their lives. This divine covering isn't just a nice theological concept—it's a practical reality that should transform how we live, pray, and face challenges.

What Does It Mean to Dwell in the Secret Place?

Psalms 91:1 tells us that "he who dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty." This secret place isn't just about finding a quiet room to pray, though that's important. The ultimate secret place is being in Christ Jesus.

When you make Jesus the Lord of your life, you've positioned yourself in the ultimate fortress. You've built yourself a high tower where no evil can penetrate and destroy your life. This isn't just spiritual poetry—it's your new reality as a believer.

The Importance of Private Prayer

While corporate prayer and fellowship are vital, there's something irreplaceable about private, uninterrupted time with God. This is where real communication happens—where you can share things with God that you wouldn't share with anyone else.

Many people make the mistake of talking to others about problems they should only be discussing with God. When you develop a strong secret prayer life, you'll find yourself less dependent on venting to people and more confident in God's ability to handle your concerns.

Who's Inside and Who's Outside?

Revelation 22:15 gives us a sobering picture: "But outside are dogs and sorcerers, sexually immoral, and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and practices a lie." This passage reveals that there are people living "outside" of God's protection.

Those who haven't made Jesus Lord of their lives are living outside the hedge of protection. They're vulnerable to the enemy's attacks because they haven't positioned themselves in the secret place of the Most High.

The Reality of Spiritual Protection

When you're in Christ, you're not just hoping for protection—you have it. Psalm 91:10-11 promises: "No evil shall befall you, nor shall any plague come near your dwelling. For He shall give His angels charge over you, to keep you in all your ways."

This isn't conditional on your performance. It's based on your position in Christ. You have angelic assistance working on your behalf, supernatural help for supernatural challenges.

Understanding the Hedge of Protection

Psalm 139:5 reveals something powerful: "You have hedged me behind and before, and laid Your hand upon me." God has completely surrounded you with His protection. You're not just covered from one direction—you're enclosed on all sides.

What Satan Knows About the Hedge

In the book of Job, we see Satan himself acknowledging this hedge of protection. He says to God about Job: "Have You not made a hedge around him, around his household, and around all that he has on every side?"

Notice what this hedge accomplishes according to Satan's own testimony:

- Satan cannot touch you personally
- Your household (family) is protected
- The works of your hands are blessed
- Your possessions increase in the land

This isn't just Old Testament protection for one man—this is the pattern of God's protection for all who dwell in His secret place.

The Devil is Under Your Feet, Not Over Your Head

One of the most liberating truths believers need to grasp is that Jesus has already defeated Satan and placed him under our feet. When you feel like you're "under attack," remember that the Bible says the devil is under your feet.

You can't be under someone who's already under you. This perspective shift changes everything about how you approach spiritual warfare and daily challenges.

Why Some Prayers Don't Work

Sometimes we struggle in prayer because we're trying to get God to do something He's already done. We're asking Him to defeat an enemy He defeated 2,000 years ago. We're requesting protection He's already provided.

Instead of begging God to rescue you from someone you've already been rescued from, stand in faith on what Christ has already accomplished. Declare the victory that's already yours.

The Power of Your Words

Job 3:25 reveals a sobering truth: "For the thing I greatly feared has come upon me, and what I dreaded has happened to me." Fear spoken becomes fear manifested. What you consistently talk about, you give power to in your life.

The Bible says life and death are in the power of the tongue. If you're constantly talking about your problems, fears, and worries, you're giving the enemy legal ground to bring those things into your life.

Speaking Life Instead of Death

Instead of saying what you have (problems), start saying what you want to have (solutions). Instead of talking your fears, start talking God's promises. Let the weak say "I am strong" rather than constantly confessing weakness.

Your tongue is the rudder of your life's ship. Take control of where your life is heading by taking control of what you're saying.

Legal Rights in the Spirit Realm

Demons operate legally—they can't just do whatever they want. They need legal ground, which often comes through our words, actions, and attitudes. When we operate in fear, pride, or unbelief, we can give the enemy access to areas of our lives.

The good news is that if you've given the devil legal ground, you can take it back through repentance. God doesn't just forgive what you've done wrong—He cleanses you from all unrighteousness and restores what the enemy has stolen.

New Testament Believers Have Greater Protection

If Job could be protected by God's hedge without being born again or having the Holy Spirit living inside him, how much more are we protected as New Testament believers? Christ

has redeemed us from the curse of the law. We don't have to choose between different evils—Jesus took them all.

When you mess up, you don't have to live under condemnation or expect punishment. You can immediately repent, receive forgiveness, and walk in the full protection of your hedge.

Life Application

This week, make a conscious decision to live from the reality of your divine protection rather than from fear or anxiety. Start each day by declaring that you are in Christ, hedged in behind and before, with God's hand upon your life.

Pay attention to your words. When you catch yourself speaking fear, problems, or negativity, immediately stop and speak the opposite. Declare God's promises over your situation instead of rehearsing your problems.

Develop a consistent private prayer life where you can communicate with God about things that concern you. Come out of those prayer times filled with faith rather than anxiety, confident that God has heard you and is working on your behalf.

Questions for Reflection:

- Am I living with the confidence that comes from knowing I'm protected by God's hedge, or am I constantly worried about what the enemy might do to me?
- What negative words have I been speaking that might be giving the enemy legal ground in my life?
- Do I have a consistent private prayer life where I can communicate intimately with God about my concerns?
- When challenges arise, do I immediately think I'm "under attack," or do I remember that the devil is under my feet?

Quotes

1. We are undercover agents in this world—under the covering of the Most High.
2. He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.
3. Jesus is our secret place. And we don't have a secret prayer place that's worth anything until we're first in Him.
4. When you make Jesus the Lord of your life, you make Him the fortress of your life.
5. The devil will always call from the outside. He'll try to lure you out of your strong tower, out of Christ, out of faith in Him.
6. If you're in Christ; You're in a fortress. The devil is on the outside—he can't come in here.
7. We can't be under the devils attack if he's under our feet.
8. We don't need God to rescue us from someone we've already been rescued from.
9. When you've got a hedge around you, everything you put your hands to is protected from the devourer—the thief who tries to take it from you.
10. When you've got a hedge around you, you can expect increase, not decrease, in your life.
11. Everything demons do, they have to do legally. That's good news—because if you know your legal rights, you can keep the devil from touching you.
12. Stop talking your problems, your worries, your fears—and start talking the Word. Start talking the answers.
13. Stop having what you say, and start saying what you have. In other words, take control of your life by taking control of the rudder of your ship—your tongue.
14. Faith brings God upon you. Faith brings the blessing of God upon you. Fear brings what you're fearing upon you.

15. Stop fighting with a devil who's already defeated.

Verses

1. Psalm 91:1-2
2. Psalm 139:5
3. Revelation 22:12-17
4. Job 1:6-12
5. Job 2:4-6
6. Job 3:25-26

Remember, you're not just hoping for God's protection—you have it. You're not fighting for victory—you're fighting from victory. The devil is outside, you're inside, and that makes all the difference in how you approach every day of your life.

Summary

Believers have divine protection through God's hedge of safety that surrounds them completely. When you make Jesus Lord of your life, you position yourself in the ultimate fortress where no evil can penetrate. This protection isn't conditional on your performance but based on your position in Christ. Satan himself acknowledged this hedge around Job, noting that it protected him personally, his household, and blessed the works of his hands. As New Testament believers, we have even greater protection than Job had. The devil is under our feet, not over our heads, and we must live from this reality rather than from fear. Your words have power to either give the enemy legal ground or declare God's promises over your life.