

Destroyed By Distraction

The Secret Place

What is the Secret place? Everyone needs some place that they can go to get away. But We can't Dwell or live in the Tabernacle or Church house. So, the Secret place is more than just his tabernacle. The secret place of Ps 91:1 refers to the Holy of holies (or the Concentrated presence of God.) He who enters legitimately there shall be covered with the cloud of God's glory. Don't be destroyed by distractions.

Song 2:15

Take us the foxes, the little foxes, that spoil the vines: for our vines have tender grapes.

Families, and individuals, as well as entire churches encounter devastating things that you would have thought would destroy them, but somehow, they pass through that rocky terrain and went on to experience victory.

Only then to go on to find themselves losing the battle with something else that one might consider trivial.

It is a fact that often we find ourselves "braced" for the worse during horrific storms and perhaps that is the reason why we find victory in our lives. We have prepared ourselves for it.

But it is those day-to-day things that can become a real hindrance. It is the distractions of life that often overwhelm us.

Scriptures when we are in battle is found in the 91st Psalm.

Ps 91:1-4

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

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.

Also, another portion of that same chapter says...

Ps 91:13

Thou shalt tread upon the lion and adder: the young lion and the dragon shalt thou trample under feet.

Three things David listed, as things that God will give us victory over.

In verse three he said... ***The Noisome Pestilences...***

This could be anything that is small that is rarely more than just something that becomes a “bother” to us. While it is a bother, it IS NOT something that is lethal or deadly, etc. ***Simply small distractions of life!***

However, in verse 13, David moves on to list some things that are DEADLY. He said here that God would give victory over the **LION** and the **ADDER**. Both of these are not merely small and insignificant “bothers” of life!

Ps 91:13

Thou shalt tread upon the **lion and adder**: the young lion and the dragon shalt thou trample under feet.

These are things that we face that could inflict serious/deadly wounds!

There ARE some things that we face in the course of life that can and will inflict mortal wounds, however, the Lord promised that He would cause us to walk UPON these circumstances!

So even in the face of SERIOUS situations, we can become over-comers and NOT become distracted!

The next thing listed in verse 13 is...

Psalm 91:13 Thou shalt tread upon the lion and adder: the young lion and **the dragon** shalt thou trample under feet.

The **DRAGON**... this is simply a mythical creature that does not exist. How often have you known of people that become totally distracted by things that DO NOT exist?

Song 2:15

Take us the foxes, the little foxes, that spoil the vines: for our vines have tender grapes.

The vineyards, beautiful with fragrant blossoms, point to her covenant of love, and the foxes, the little foxes, which might destroy those united vineyards, point to all the threat and little enemies and adverse circumstances which threaten to gnaw and destroy love in the blossom ere it has reached the ripeness of full enjoyment.

These little jackals were seldom more than fifteen inches high.

Let the blossoming love of the soul be without injury and restraint. Let the rising faith and affection be carefully guarded.

Vines that promised well, spoiled.

Few things are more beautiful than the beginnings of the Divine life.

But few things are sadder than to see all this hopefulness and promise spoiled. And such things do happen.

Gal 5:7

Ye did run well; who did hinder you that ye should not obey the truth?

How often in our Lord's ministry had, he to bear this disappointment! Again and again there would come to him those about who bright hope might have been cherished, good-natured, well-disposed, warm-hearted, intelligent, pure minded, generous, much esteemed, kindly, lovable, and beloved.

Such people were irresistibly drawn to him, and for a while they would follow him; but then after a while we find something offending them, and they go away.

Christ drew their portrait in his parable of the sower, where he likens such to the seed sown on the stony ground. Quick to spring up and present the appearance of vigorous life, but as quick to wither away when the sun's scorching heat smote them as it smote all else.

There is yet the spoiling. The vines are not cut down, they are not hindered from bringing forth any fruit.

What hinders them?

It is not, as the mournful eightieth Psalm states,

Ps 80:13

The boar out of the wood doth waste it, and the wild beast of the field doth devour it.

It is not said, as in the sixteenth verse, "*It is burned with fire, it is cut down: they perish at the rebuke of thy countenance.*"

It is not said, as in the twelfth verse of the eightieth Psalm, "*Why hast thou then broken down her hedges, so that all they which pass by the way do pluck off her grapes?*"

No! It is the foxes, the little foxes, that spoil the tender grapes.

I will not be destroyed by a high-handed, bold, Heaven-defying sin.

But there are other masters of the soul, spoilers of the grapes of God.

"*Little*," so we call them. And "*Fox-Like*," for they lie in wait and lurk and hide; they have as Jesus said, "*their holes*," and there they burrow and bury themselves out of sight.

It has often been pointed out how Daniel might have prayed to God notwithstanding the king's

decree, and yet never have incurred the awful peril of the lion's den, if he would only have shut his window when he prayed.

But he had to open it, and so, of course, he was seen. But he would not compromise with what he deemed his duty to God even in so slight degree as this.

And the martyrs, too. The Roman judges used perpetually to remind the early Christians how trivial was the concession asked for just sprinkling a grain or two of incense on an altar, that was all. And the little foxes grow into great ones. Don't be destroyed by distractions.