

Psalm 91
Under the Shadow of His Wings
By Pastor Brian Gibbs

Good morning, Victory family.

Today is day one of our Unto the Lord Fast and I am really blessed to begin this week with all of you and those from outside of the local church family that are joining us throughout the nation, we welcome you.

When we began to pray about the emphasis and theme for this fast, my heart was directed to Psalm 91. I believe this was Holy Spirit's directive from the start. This psalm from God's dear friend, Moses, has been a source of faith, rich promises, and comfort for thousands of years to the hearts of God's family.

Let's speak openly and honestly for a moment. All of us know and understand that our nation is at a crossroad. America has continued down a dangerous path, and the terrain has only become more treacherous with each month and year. It's not an exaggeration to say that our culture and society is manifesting deep human madness, confusion, and moral decay. With each day we see the news and the warning signs about energy crisis, the national debt, financial crisis, wars, unstable markets, infectious diseases, food shortages, earthquakes, and climate crisis. This is far more than a psychology of fear that is being fed through the news. We are in times of danger. God's Word tells us plainly that the *last days* would be *perilous* times. The word "perilous" comes from the word, peril, which means immediate danger, severe risk, loss, serious harm, upheaval, challenge, and intense adversity.

As we navigate this faith journey and discern our times, we need to be reminded we are in this world, yet we are not of this world (John 17:14). This is true. This is not our ultimate home. The Kingdom is coming in fullness, and the reign of our King will be glorious. As we walk by faith in uncertain and perilous times, we must remember that God's presence is our shelter in troubling times and God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind (2 Timothy 1:7).

The phrase "sound mind" in the Greek is "sophreneo" which means to be delivered, rescued, revived, salvaged and protected; and is now safe and secure.

Enter Moses.

This man, Moses, who walked powerfully with God, knew exactly what it means to be "sophreneo"—delivered, rescued, revived, protected, and brought safe and secure in the presence of God. Moses penned the amazing God-breathed words of Psalm 91 as an eternal testament for all who place their faith in the Lord and walk with God in covenant.

Moses' story is beyond epic and beyond compare. Think about the courage of his parents to preserve him from the death sentence of the children of Israel in Egypt and placing him in the waters of the Nile. Think about the providence of him being drawn from the river to Pharaoh's daughter and his upbringing in the king's palace. Then came the ultimate identity crisis that Moses had to face in the realization and understanding he was a Jew and not an Egyptian. His story takes us through fleeing to escape Egypt to the land of Midian where he became a shepherd. In the hills of Midian while tending to the sheep He was encountered by the One Living God, the Great I AM, in the burning bush experience. God's call and commission upon Moses brings him back to Egypt for a divine confrontation with evil and to unleash God's judgments upon Pharaoh and all of Egypt's false gods. Ultimately, through a divine Passover, deliverance would come and the exodus would thrust the children of Israel from captivity into freedom. Glory to God!

During the exodus, Moses lead God's beloved people through the wilderness and to the shores of the Red Sea to behold God's mighty power in commanding the sea to stand up at attention for His chosen to miraculously walk through on dry ground. In the closing of the waters, all of Pharaoh's army, horses, and chariots were drowned in the depths of the sea. Moses' enemies from Egypt were now silent—their voices never to be remembered.

God's presence manifested in the pillar of cloud by day and pillar of fire by night, leading to the Mount Sinai encounter where Moses received the ten commandments. The bush was no longer on fire; now the entire mountain was set ablaze with the fire of the Lord. Moses stayed up in the high places of Sinai 40 days and nights in the thick glory cloud, to receive God's commands and His law for the people.

Moses became a man of the glory—changed and transformed by God's glory. He became a man of deep friendship with the Lord. Exodus 33:11 (NKJV) reads, "So the Lord spoke to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend." No wonder his face was shining with radiance as he came down the mountain to the people. How awesome!

Moses wrote for us Psalm 91 drawn out of a deep abiding relationship, journey, and experiential revelation with God's abiding presence. He knew the all-consuming shadow and divine protection of the El Shaddai. He discovered that God's presence was always holding him and the people of God as a stronghold, and he grew in confidence that God was the rescuer and deliverer against all hidden traps of the enemy.

Moses knew the faithfulness of God as a shield that would keep us from all false accusation or any deadly curse. He could boldly tell us to never worry about an attack of demonic forces at night nor to fear any spirit of darkness coming against us. Don't fear a thing! Whether by night or by day, demonic danger will not trouble you, nor will the powers of evil be launched against you. Even in a time of disaster, with thousands and thousands being killed, you will remain unscathed and unharmed.

Moses could declare with certainty that the righteous would be delivered out of peril and we could watch the *wicked perish* in judgment, for they would be paid back for what they have done. Moses tells us when we live our lives within the shadow of God Most High, in our secret hiding place, we will always be shielded from harm. How then could evil prevail against us or disease infect us?

Moses went on to tell us that God Almighty, the Great I AM, sends angels with special orders to protect us wherever we go, defending us from all harm. Wow! If we walk into a trap, they'll be there for us, to keep us from stumbling. We'll even walk unharmed among the fiercest powers of darkness, trampling every one of them beneath our feet!

Moses reminds us that this is what the Lord has spoken: "Because you loved Me, delighted in Me, and have been loyal to My name, I will greatly protect you. I will answer your cry for help every time you pray, and you will feel My presence in your time of trouble. I will deliver you and bring you honor. I will satisfy you with a full life and with all that I do for you. For you will enjoy the fullness of My salvation!" (Psalm 91:14–16 TPT)

Hallelujah, JESUS!

Now I want us to open our Bible and look at the anointed, life-giving words in Psalm 91 and declare them over our lives, our children, our grandchildren, and our Victory family.

Psalm 91 (NKJV):

He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High
Shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.
I will say of the Lord, "*He is* my refuge and my fortress;
My God, in Him I will trust."

Surely He shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler
And from the perilous pestilence.
He shall cover you with His feathers,
And under His wings you shall take refuge;
His truth *shall be your* shield and buckler.
You shall not be afraid of the terror by night,
Nor of the arrow *that* flies by day,
Nor of the pestilence *that* walks in darkness,
Nor of the destruction *that* lays waste at noonday.

A thousand may fall at your side,
And ten thousand at your right hand;
But it shall not come near you.
Only with your eyes shall you look,
And see the reward of the wicked.

Because you have made the Lord, *who is* my refuge,
Even the Most High, your dwelling place,
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.
In *their* hands they shall bear you up,
Lest you dash your foot against a stone.
You shall tread upon the lion and the cobra,
The young lion and the serpent you shall trample underfoot.

Because he has set his love upon Me, therefore I will deliver him;
I will set him on high, because he has known My name.
He shall call upon Me, and I will answer him;
I *will be* with him in trouble;
I will deliver him and honor him.
With long life I will satisfy him,
And show him My salvation.”

These words are packed with the promises of God!

Friends, no matter what comes in the remainder of this year and as we head in 2027, our God and King will lead us, shield and protect us, provide for us, and bring us into His overcoming triumph.

Abide under the shadow of His wings. Make His presence your home. God is our eternal refuge, faithful to the end, and worthy of our whole trust.

As we go through this fast each day this week, I pray the all-consuming presence of Jesus will be your source of life and hope. We are being changed from glory to glory. Like Moses, we are people of God's glory. We are not of this world.

I bless you, in His Mighty Name. Amen!