# GOD'S SECRET **PLACE:** UNDERSTANDING PSALM 91 From Overwhelmed to Unshakeable STUDY GUIDE

# God's Secret Place: Understanding Psalm 91 Study Guide

Crisis: It can be the 'end of the world' and yet also an opportunity. For believers, a crisis is a beckoning hand to come to God and invest in your spiritual life. Nothing is more important than this. When you make God, His kingdom, and righteousness your number one priority (Matthew 6:33), all your needs will be met, with dividends.

The third millennium began in crisis, multiple crises and chances are that this pattern will continue. Either we can choose to worry ourselves to death, or even adopt destructive behaviours. Or we can embark upon the path to divine blessing. Of course, the latter option is the only sensible one, but how do we put it into practice?

Psalm 91 is your passport, visa, and key to the victorious, internal life that rejects worry and fear, nurtures an excellent spirit and enables you to face the future with confidence. Its words are timeless and its precepts are priceless. Obedience to its commands invites supernatural provision, protection, and preservation.

In this study guide, we are going to explore this wonderful psalm in depth. As we do, expect to relinquish many, even all cares, fears, apprehensions and anxieties. Welcome the peace of God as it flows into your heart and mind. Once you have been blessed, and your cup starts overflowing, be prepared to reach out and touch others who are struggling with the personal and corporate issues of the day. You will be able to impart the Psalm 91 blessing to them too.

This study guide is based on the book, God's Secret Place: Understanding Psalm 91 by Kameel MAJ-DALI, published by Teach All Nations Inc. (tan.org.au). You do not need the book to answer the study questions, since most of them are based on Scripture; a good concordance will be helpful for a few questions. Excerpts found in the study guide are, however, drawn from the book. Suitable for personal and small group study, this study guide intends to point you in the right direction to a life of victory and peace.

Be blessed as you study and live by Psalm 91.

 Kameel MAJDALI Teach All Nations tan.org.au

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All Scripture quotes come from the Authorised (King James) Version of the Bible.

The Psalm's theme is clear: in a world full of change and crisis, God offers refuge, strength, and ultimate victory to those who trust and obey Him. The promises in Psalm 91 are as true today as when they were first written three thousand years ago.

#### Who is the God of Psalm 91?

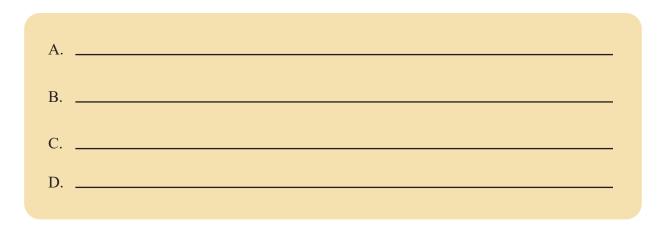
As we explore Psalm 91, we will learn that God doesn't just lead us to His safe space - God is Himself that space. Therefore, it behoves us to learn more about who the God of Psalm 91 is. It is God's character that gives us the unshakeable conviction that His promises are true.

The important thing to remember is that it is the one and only true God, maker of heaven and earth, who invites us to come and make ourselves at home 'with Him' and 'in Him.' There can, indeed, be a mystery to God's dealings, which may not be apparent to you at the time that you most need Him (Daniel 2:22; Job 12:22; Jeremiah 33:3). But Scripture emphasises that we must come to God, who is always good, commit ourselves to Him and trust in Him at all times, even when we don't understand the situation we are in. Those wise people who do precisely this will experience protection, peace, provision, and promotion. Once we are cognisant of what God is truly offering in Psalm 91, we should see that it is, in truth, the proverbial offer that is 'too good to refuse.'

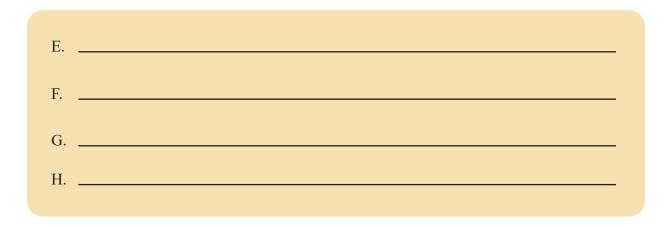
From here, we are ready to go deeper into Psalm 91.

# **Chapter One** The God of Psalm 91

1. What are the four titles of God described in verses 1-2?



2. What are the Hebrew words - and its meaning - for the four above titles?

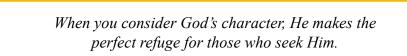


3. Who is the first person to hear God's Name? (Exodus 6:3)

4. What Name do we use when we want to connect with God (Acts 4:12; Philippians 2:9-11)

5. How is God described in the following verses: Isaiah 12:2; 44:6

6. What is the God of Psalm 91 described as in these verses: Isaiah 40:28; Romans 1:25; 1 Peter 1:19



# **Chapter Two**

### A Closer Look at the Secret Place and the Problem of Pain

1. The Bible gives several examples of God providing a secret place of refuge. Name the person who received refuge and also the name of that refuge found in Chapter Two.

I. Genesis 6:8	
J. Genesis 26:22	
K. Genesis 32:30	
L. Genesis 41:34-36	
M. Numbers 35:10-11	
N. Ruth 2:12	

#### Promises of Divine Refuge

Describe the promises of divine refuge in the following verses:

2. Psalm 32:7	
3. Proverbs 18:10	
4. Psalm 46:1	
5. Nahum 1:7	
6. Zephaniah 2:3	
7. Luke 21:36 What does benefit of doing it?	Christ want you to do according to this verse and what is the
8. Revelation 3:10 What o	does Christ promise the church at Philadelphia and why?

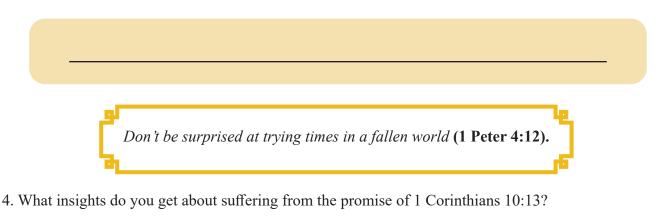
#### The Question of Suffering

The question of why believers experience pain and suffering is not an easy one, but there are solid, sound, Biblical answers. Having a 'theology of suffering' will help us to make sense of painful and challenging situations and give us the means to handle them. God is more than ready to help us through pain, hardship, and grief, but we must come to Him on His terms, in His timing, and on His territory.

1. Name the different kinds of suffering experienced by people of faith in Hebrews 11:35-38:

2. Remember: God is righteous but the world is evil. Who are our real enemies as described in Ephesians 6:12?

3. Many ask: if God is good, why doesn't He do something? Answer: He already has! He sent the holy, righteous 'second Adam' to cancel out the sin and death of the 'first Adam' (Genesis 3). Who is the second Adam (1 Corinthians 15:45)?



In suffering, it also helps to look unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith (Hebrews 12:2). Consider what He suffered on our behalf: much rejection from family, His Nazareth neighbours, His disciples (John 6:66), the religious establishment, and the Roman authorities. He suffered misunderstanding, grotesque mob justice, mocking, and murderous hatred. He did it all because of the joy that awaited Him.

5. During times of trouble, what is the solution (Psalm 46:1)?

6. How should we respond (Hebrews 4:16)?

7. Suffering can be part of God's discipline of His children. Look at Proverbs 3:11-12 and describe God's motive. How should we respond?

8. What is God's promise that makes suffering manageable and ultimately redemptive (see Matthew 28:20 and Hebrews 13:5)?

# **Chapter Three**

### Where is the Secret Place? (Psalm 91:1-2)

He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. 2I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust - Psalm 91:1-2

The first two verses of Psalm 91 affirm that there is no better place to go than God's secret place in times of trouble. There you will find stability when there is shaking, a refuge in the face of revolt, and tranquillity where there is turmoil. *Not* only does Scripture describe it - it beckons you to come. Yet we should not wait until an emergency erupts to look for the secret place. Now is the time to identify and locate it. It will take us from sinking sands to solid rock and from panic to peace.

Key words to remember regarding God's secret place is to 'dwell' Hebrew: *yashab - sit down, stay, and live in your permanent safe above.* 

Also 'abide' Hebrew *luwn lodge, pass the night, abide*. You go from a temporary tourist visa to permanent residency in God's refuge.

1. What lessons do you learn about 'abiding in Christ' from John 15:1-11?

2. Getting into God's presence has numerous benefits. These include:

D. Deuteronomy 20:1	
E. Exodus 3:12	
F. Exodus 33:14-17; John 14:20	
G. Exodus 33:14, 18	
H. Leviticus 26:12	

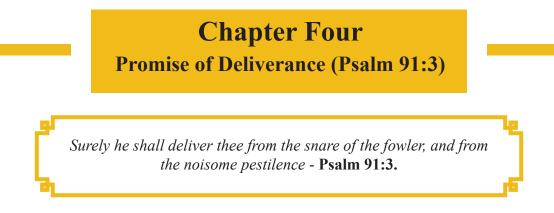
I. Isaiah 43:2	
J. Zechariah 2:10	
K. Matthew 18:20	

3. Refuge means a place of protection, shelter and safety in time of need. Where did David take refuge in 1 Samuel 22:1?

4. Describe the refuge God provides in Deuteronomy 33:27

5. Fortress: A strongly fortified town or fort. It protects you from external enemies, even if they are powerful. What synonyms are used to describe God as a fortress in Psalm 18:2?

6. Now that you found God as your refuge and fortress, you need a key to enter into the secret place.. That key is found in Proverbs 3:5 and Isaiah 26:3. What is it?



Verse 3 promises deliverance from the "snare of the fowler" (or hunter) and "the noisome [deadly] pestilence." These phrases may use archaic language, but they are metaphors for the pitfalls and challenges that we still face in modern times. The hunter's snare and the deadly pestilence extend into two realms of life: the physical, visible realm; and the unseen yet ever-powerful spiritual realm. Life in this fallen world is full of traps, snares, and pestilence and God wants to deliver you from all these things.

1. According to **Psalm 91:3**, what is your source of deliverance from the snare of the fowler and noisome pestilence?

2. What do Proverbs 22:3 and 27:12 say about the prudent man v. the simple one?

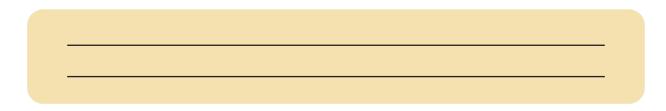
3. Regarding plagues, pestilence, and illness, what are some of the practical and spiritual things you can do to build up your immunity?

4. What is the source of great deliverance according to 2 Samuel 8:6 and Job 5:19?

Other promises include divine preservation for the faithful (Psalm 31:23), everlasting salvation for the saints (Psalm 37:28), and preserved pathways (Proverbs 2:8).

In Romans 8:37-39, we see a whole host of things that could separate us from God including death, life, angels, principalities, powers, things present and things to come. But thanks to the secret place and the presence of God it provides, our weakness becomes strength, evil brings good, and opposition becomes enablement.

5. When David walked through the valley of the shadow of death in **Psalm 23:4**, he was fearless; what was the basis of his fearlessness (list three things)?



6. Who is the source of the deliverance of the saints according to Psalm 34:7 (cf. Matthew 18:10)?

The lesson is simple: if you want divine protection, come to God, enter His secret place by faith, and let Him and His angels work for you.

# **Chapter Five** God's Truth Delivers

*He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler* — **Psalm 91:4.** 

One of the greatest dangers we face in our world, especially today, is the assault on truth. False ideologies have spread the notion that all truth is relative: you have your truth, I have mine, all truths are 'equally valid' and no one's truth is superior to another. This teaching can be distilled into some of the following ideas and concerns:

- We are told that our age is a 'post-truth age';
- Truth is relative; there are no absolutes (absolute truth applies to all people and all times);
- This mindset has led to a proliferation of lying, spin, half-truths, fake news, and perjury;

• Of special concern is false witness, which is a serious violation of the ninth commandment (Exodus 20:16; 23:1);

• New and virulent strains of falsehood are rampant, including misinformation and disinformation campaigns, gaslighting, and double-speak;

• People are becoming more experienced at lying convincingly;

• **Gaslighting**: Even when you see and hear something clearly, you will be told you didn't really see this or hear that. This persuasive lying could make you doubt your sanity; and

• When presented with irrefutable facts and evidence, the post-truth person rejects it in favour of their chosen narrative.

The danger is that no civilisation can continue to stand if based on continuous and unrelenting falsehood. In addition, on a personal basis, the eternal consequences of lying are dire (Revelation 21:8; 22:15). We need to win the war on truth and **Psalm 91:4** can help.

1. Paul speaks about truth and deception in his end-time passage in **2** Thessalonians **2:9-12**. What phrases does he use to describe truth and deception/lies/falsehood?

2. What is Paul's warning in verse 2 of that same passage?

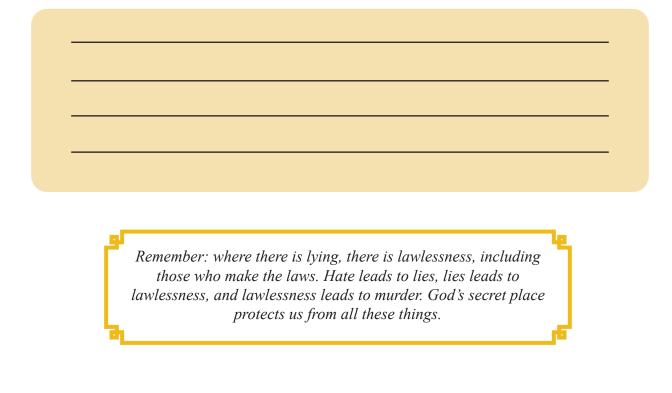
3. John 8:44: According to this verse, what is the devil's native language?

John 8:45: When people are exposed to lies and deception for a long period of time, when confronted with the verifiable, guaranteed, common-sense, straight from the mouth of Jesus truth, they are unable to receive it (John 8:43, 45).

4. God's unassailable everlasting truth is found in three immutable and undeniable sources. List them and write a short definition.

John 14:6	
John 16:13	
John 17:17	
JOHN 1/:1/	

6. **Psalm 91:4**: List the four elements of protection made possible by God's truth.



# Chapter Six

**No-Fear Zone** 

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. 8 Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked. — Psalm 91:5-8.

As we continue our walk through Psalm 91, we are given a guarantee that may seem too good to be true: we are told that we will not be afraid of night-time terror, daytime arrows, pestilence in the dark, or destruction by day. These perils represent a variety of destructive methods and circumstances. Are the promises made in verses 5-8 simply poetic license and hyperbole, or can we take them at face value? Is it possible for life in the fallen world, headed towards its last days, apocalyptic climax, to become a 'no-fear zone'? The answer to this question is what this chapter is about.

1. **Fearless four - Psalm 91:5-6:** What are the four menacing situations that you will not fear thanks to God's secret place?

2. In order to enter into God's secret place, we need to come close to God. What do we learn from **James 4:7-8** on this point?

The mighty armies and empires of the Bible have come and gone. The Egyptians were decimated at the first Passover, and the Assyrian forces were destroyed at the siege of Jerusalem in 701 BC. Israel had every reason to be afraid but not when it trusted in God.

3. **Psalm 91:6 and Exodus 15:26-27** mention freedom from plagues. According to these verses, what steps must you take to avoid pestilence/plague/pandemic?

4. Destruction at noon: Calamitous events can happen at any time, day and night. **Psalm 91:7** speaks of the secret place person as invincible. Explain what that means

5. Page 120 onwards: List the six characters in Scripture who were judged by God.

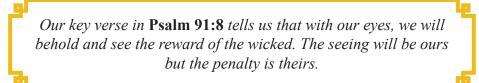
9:24, 53-54		
2 Samuel 18:9-17		
1 Kings 2:32		
2 Kings 9:21-37		
Esther 7:10		

6. Page 123: List the five commandments violated by King David when he sinned with Bathsheba and murdered her husband, Uriah the Hittite, who was one of his mighty men, in **2 Samuel 11**?

<u> </u>

[1] Egypt was decimated at the first Passover by the death of the firstborn (Exodus 12:29-30) and the parting of the Red Sea (Exodus 14:13, 14, 30, 31).

[2] The Assyrian forces besieging Jerusalem in 701 BC were divinely defeated (2 Kings 19:32-35).



7. What is the glorious promise of John 5:24?

## **Chapter Seven** Divine Protection Reaffirmed

Because thou hast made the Lord, which is my refuge, even the most High, thy habitation; 10 There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling - Psalm 91:9-10.

If we are to enjoy the privileges and benefits of **Psalm 91**, we need to be reminded again and again of the nature of the God who provides them.

Given God's exalted position as God Most High, we must also know how to respond to Him. Once more, Scripture is our guide. David said he would praise God according to His righteousness (Psalm 7:17). How righteous is God Most High? Immeasurably so. The praise should, therefore, be generous, whole-hearted, sincere, and ongoing (Psalm 92).

1. **Psalm 91:9:** The Lord is called 'my refuge' and the Most High God. There is nothing and no one higher than Him. According to this verse, **who** made the Most High their habitation?

Inside the divine refuge, God will calm you, load you with His peace (John 14:27), and keep you from the fear of evil (Proverbs 1:33). By day, you will walk in a sure-footed and confident manner; by night, you can lie down, easily fall asleep (Proverbs 3:23-24), and enjoy sweet dreams.

2. What is the two-fold promise of Psalm 91:10?

3. How long should you keep trusting God (pick one) A. For at least three months; B. For at least two years; C. For as long as it takes.

4. You may not always get such a tidy, textbook answer to your own frightening or difficult situations. But that does not mean that you cannot experience the same peace as the others. By now, you should know what to do: Keep actively and consistently confessing and committing your fears and problems to God. Keep trusting, praying, praising, and patiently enduring. You are serving God nobly as you continue to persevere in the face of trials. And your reward will be great.

5. How long should you keep trusting God (pick one) A. For at least three months; B. For at least two years; C. For as long as it takes.

# **Chapter Eight**

**Angels on Assignment** 

For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways. 12 They shall bear thee up in their hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone - Psalm 91:11-12.

For those of you who abide in God's secret place, Psalm 91:11 tells us that He especially commissions helpers to keep watchful charge over you. They are heavenly bodyguards and more.

These helpers are angelic beings. Wherever you stay, they will stay, and wherever you travel, they will accompany you. Their assignment is to watch over the entire person: body, mind, soul, and spirit. And they keep you in all your ways, wherever you go.

#### Ministering Angels (vv. 11-12)

Angels are a feature in Scripture from Genesis to Revelation. While they are ever-present, they can be elusive, easily camouflaged, and misunderstood. Yet for those who seek to be in God's presence, angels are part of the package deal.

Here are some interesting statistics about the words 'angels' and 'angel' in the Bible:

•Genesis: 'Angels' are mentioned four times; 'angel' eleven times. There was a lot of angelic activity "in the beginning."

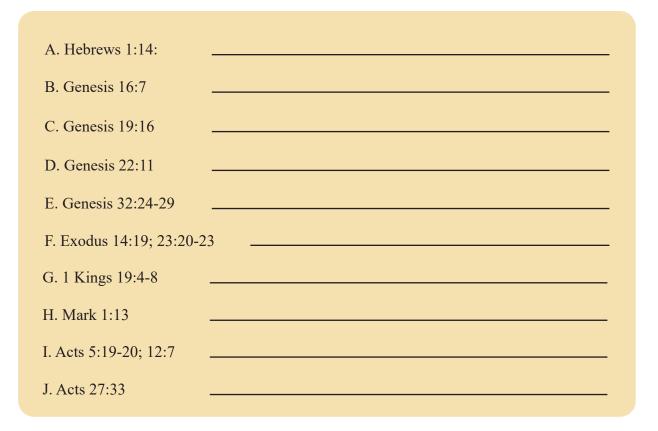
•Psalms: 'Angels' are mentioned eight times; 'angel' three.

•Four Gospels: 'Angels' are mentioned twenty-nine times; 'angel' twenty-three times. The angels were working hard because Christ worked hard.

•Acts: 'Angels' are mentioned only once, but 'angel' twenty times. While the Holy Spirit was paramount in the birth and growth of the church, angelic activity was part of making it happen.

•Hebrews: 'Angels' are mentioned twelve times. Christ is described as better than the angels but, at the same time, we get more insight about them and their work.

•**Revelation:** 'Angels' are mentioned twenty-two times; but 'angel' is cited a massive fifty-one times. Since there was much angelic work in the beginning, it is not surprising that it also greatly intensifies at the end. 1. Name the Biblical beneficiary and location of angelic ministry as mentioned in the following verses



2. Psalm 91:11: Who commissions the angels? What charge are they given?

3. Psalm 91:12 is reiterated in Jude v. 24. What is the two-fold work of God according to this verse?

4. Who uses or misuses **Psalm 91:4** (Matthew 4:6)? What was the Scriptural response to this (Matthew 4:7)? Where is this verse originally found in Deuteronomy?



5. Speaking metaphorically, God promises to watch our steps using the following imagery:

K. Psalm 18:36:		
L. Exodus 19:4		
M. Isaiah 41:10		
N. Deuteronomy 33:27		
O. Isaiah 46:3-4 (God's f	our-fold act):	

Without the intervention of angels, who carry us in their hands, we would dash our foot against the stone and after that, we would be going nowhere. These examples confirm that whether by direct intervention or by the use of angels, God will guide our steps and keep us from falling. Like a good shepherd, He guards and guides His sheep. And the angels are there to help. We can draw both comfort and support from the work of these often invisible but powerful beings who labour on our behalf.

# Chapter Nine Wild Animals Subdued

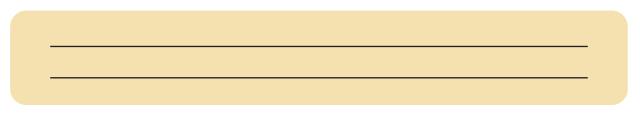
Thou shalt tread upon the lion and adder [cobra]: the young lion and the dragon [serpent] shalt thou trample under feet - Psalm 91:13

The Biblical Christian life is intended to be a life of victory because God gives us overcoming power. In that, we can greatly rejoice. Yet there are also implications to this: to overcome and gain victory, we have to have something to overcome. A battle is to be waged and won. While our key verse speaks about overcoming lions and serpents (and there are examples in Scripture of both), we can also use the same principles to prevail over enemies both human and visible and spiritual and invisible. So we need to address the threat of danger.

In our unredeemed state, we are prisoners of war at the mercy of Satan's powers. But as born-again believers, we have been liberated from the greatest of enemies: sin, sickness, the world, danger, the devil, death and hell. All these things are defeated by Christ, under His feet, and this victory extends to us as well. Yet visible, absolute and permanent victory still lies in the future.

In the meantime, as we come into God's secret place, we will learn how to tread on enemy forces should they attack us. Living on God's territory means learning from Him about perfect victory. In this chapter, we will learn more about 'how to win' from a practical viewpoint.

1. Psalm 91:13: List the menacing creatures found in this verse



The word 'dragon' comes from the Hebrew word tanniyn, which can mean several things: 'dragon' (used twenty-one times in the Bible); 'serpent' (used three times); 'whale ' (used three times); and 'sea monster' (used one time). Tanniyn can also imply dragon, dinosaur, sea or river monster, or great serpent. That's a big menu to choose from. What can we deduce from all this? The creature is big, formidable, dangerous, and frightening.

**2.** Genesis 1:26 expresses God's desire to create humankind in His image. What did he want his image-bearer to do with creation?

**3.** Genesis 9:2 After the Fall and the Flood, what was God's promise to Noah?

4. Name three men in the Old Testament who literally slew a lion.

**5.** The first Messianic prophecy is given just after the Fall (when Adam and Eve sinned) in **Genesis 3:15.** Who was God speaking to and what was to be his fate? (v. 14-15).

6. Which book of the Bible mentions dragons more than any other? According to this book, who is the 'dragon' (12:9)?

7. Luke 10:19: What is Jesus' promise to his deployed disciples that resembles Psalm 91?

8. **1 John 3:8**: What has the devil been doing from the beginning? For what purpose has the Son of God manifested/come to this world?

9. James 4:7: What two steps do you need to take to cause the devil to flee from you?



# **Chapter Ten**

**Deliverance and Promotion** 

Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name. 15 He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him. 16 With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation - Psalm 91:14-16.

1. Some wonderful promises are listed in vs. 14-16. List all eight of them.

2. Verse 14 lists two prerequisites to receiving those promises. What are they?

3. The greatest commandment of all is found in **Deuteronomy 6:5 and Mark 12:30**. Please describe what we do and to what extent we do it.

4. What book of the Bible is like a manual on how to love God? Psalm (hint: it's in the Old Testament).

5. Who are three men who 'walked with God?' Genesis 5:22-24; Genesis 6:9; Malachi 2:4-6?

6. In His great intercessory prayer for present and future disciples, Jesus describes eternal life in **John 17:3.** What is it?

7.We are called to love God, know God, and walk with God. What do you learn about the Lord in the following verses:

P. Matthew 11:30	
Q. John 14:6	
R. John 16:33	
S. Matthew 11:29	
T. Revelation 22:13	
U. Ephesians 1:21	
V. Psalm 24:8,10	
W. Matthew 12:20	
X. Matthew 28:18	
Y. Revelation 19:16	

God's Name Brings Salvation, Protection, and Promotion. God's name is the key to God Himself. It is the source of authority and salvation. So what should we do regarding His name? As we already know, we do have a Name - a divine pronounceable Name - that unlocks all of heaven's manifold blessings.



8. Isaiah 9:6: Describe the multi-faceted Name of Jesus in this verse.

9. What chapter of the Bible is known as the definitive chapter on 'fasting?'

10. In **Psalm 91:14** God promises to set you on high because you have known His name. This speaks of divine promotion. **Habakkuk 3:17-19** describes how to go from the valley bottom to the mountaintop. Before you make the alpine ascent, what does Habakkuk decide he is going to do for God? What does God promise to give the prophet in return?

11. Walking with God puts you on the front lines of spiritual warfare. The devil hates losing territory to God's kingdom and will fight back. That's why divine promotion is often preceded by spiritual warfare. The definitive statement is found in **Ephesians 6:14-17:** Describe the six pieces of the armour of God:'

12. **Ephesians 6:18:** Tells us to do two things: pray and watch. Please elaborate on both points from this verse.

13. Speaking of promotion, Laodicea, the least worthy of the seven churches of Revelation was given the best promise of all **if** they could overcome their lukewarmness. What was that promise? (Revelation 3:21).



**Chapter Eleven** God's Presence, Answered Prayer, and Enlargement

*He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him -***Psalm 91:15.** 

1. What is the first promise that is found in this verse?

2. What does God promise when the **Psalm 91** believer is in trouble?

3. What two things will he do regarding the believer and trouble (also in this verse)?

#### **Practical Steps to Manage Our Troubles**

Write out the practical step as per the verse given:

1. Psalm 37:5	
2. Hebrews 4:16	

3. 1 Thessalonians 5:17
4. 2 Chronicles 7:14
5. Proverbs 4:20-23
6. 1 Thessalonians 5:18
7. John 8:31-32
8. Proverbs 3:5-6; Psalm 37:3

#### Trouble's Greatest Benefit: Enlargement (Psalm 4:1)

Enlargement is a worthy goal. Yet for enlargement even to be on the schedule, we have to be courageous, even adventurous, and willing. Willing to do what? Willing to step out of our comfort zone, away from what is familiar, comfortable, and safe, and begin to journey to a place we have never been before. If we want to fulfil the call of God in our lives, then there is no other way.

Describe 'enlargement' as found in the following verses

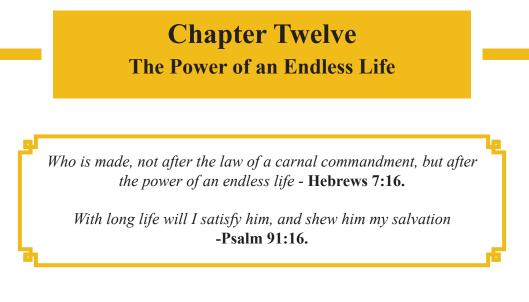
A. Psalm 4:1	
B. Psalm 18:19	

C. 1 Chronicles 4:10	

#### Honour from God (v. 15)

According to Psalm 91:15, God will honour us. Describe this honour in the following verses:

2. Ephesians 1:4	
3. 2 Corinthians 5:20	
	nours)
5. Romans 8:17	
6. Ephesians 1:3	



As we get to verse 16 - the final verse of this majestic psalm - we see that it promises longevity and salvation. These promises are inseparable. We can only have longevity with God and His saints forever through salvation in Christ. Salvation connects us perpetually with God, the source of all life. At the same time, salvation saves us from divine wrath, which entails punishment and permanent separation from God. As Romans 5:9 says: "Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him."

What are the keys to longevity according to the following Scriptures?

1. Exodus 20:12	
2. Deuteronomy 5:33	
3. Psalm 34:12-16 (cf. 1	Peter 3:10)
4. 1 Kings 3:14	
5. Proverbs 3:1-2	

6. Proverbs 3:7-8	
7. Proverbs 3:16	
8. Proverbs 4:10	

Jesus Christ is a great Saviour who gives us great salvation (Hebrews 2:3). He saves us from seven formidable foes. Who are they?

1. Matthew 1:21		
2. Isaiah 53:5		
3. Psalm 91:7 (it begins with 'D')		
4. John 16:33		
5. 1 John 3:8:		
6. 1 Corinthians 15:25-26, 54-57:		
7. Revelation 20:14		

**The Eternal State:** The Bible says very little about eternity, the 'forever and ever.' Out of 1,189 chapters in Scripture, less than two are devoted to eternity (Revelation 21:1-22:5). Part of the reason for this is eternity is so colourful, multidimensional, and glorious, that words are insufficient to describe it all.

1. (20:14; 21:4) 2. (20:14): 3. (21:1) 4. (21:4) 5. (21:4) 6. (21:4) 7. (21:8) 8. (21:8) 9. (21:8) 10. (21:8) 11. (21:8) 12. (21:8) 13. (21:8) 14. (21:8) 15. (21:22) 16. (21:25) 17. (22:3) 18. (22:15)

Yet there is an implicit indicator of eternity - not by what's in it but by what won't be in it. In the Eternal State, there will be no more (all references are from the Book of Revelation):

Most importantly, we learn that 'the tabernacle of God [will be] with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people' (Revelation 21:3). This means that we will be living in God's presence, and God Himself will be with us and be our God (Revelation 21:3). When you think about it, this New Jerusalem is God's ultimate secret place and when it happens, the secret will be a secret no more.

For this reason, it is worth keeping our eyes on Christ and this extraordinary prize. God's best is worth the wait. We cannot imagine the grandeur and glory of eternity offered to us as sons and daughters of the living God. So let us join with the Holy Spirit and say, 'Come, Lord Jesus' (Revelation 22:17, 20).