

PSALM 91

This psalm is without a title, so it would be merely speculative to ascertain the occasion for it or the name of its author. The main difficulty in interpreting it is due mainly to the confusion of the pronouns and the three apparently different voices speaking. Overall it is a very cheerful psalm, and he who can live in its spirit will be fearless. It is a heavenly medicine for all who find their courage failing.

- 1 He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.
- 2 I will say to YAHWEH, "My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust!"
- 3 For it is He who delivers you from the snare of the trapper
and from the deadly pestilence.
- 4 He will cover you with His pinions, and under His wings you may seek refuge;
His faithfulness is a shield and bulwark.

- 5 You will not be afraid of the terror by night, or of the arrow that flies by day;
6 of the pestilence that stalks in darkness, or of the destruction that lays waste at noon.
- 7 A thousand may fall at your side and ten thousand at your right hand,
but it shall not approach you.
- 8 You will only look on with your eyes and see the recompense of the wicked.
- 9 For you have made YAHWEH, my refuge, *even* the Most High, your dwelling place.
- 10 No evil will befall you, nor will any plague come near your tent.

- 11 For He will give His angels charge concerning you, to guard you in all your ways.
- 12 They will bear you up in their hands, that you do not strike your foot against a stone.
- 13 You will tread upon the lion and cobra,
the young lion and the serpent you will trample down.

- 14 "Because he has loved Me, therefore I will deliver him;
I will set him *securely* on high, because he has known My name.
- 15 "He will call upon Me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble;
I will rescue him and honor him.
- 16 "With a long life I will satisfy him and let him see My salvation."

PRAYER

Lord God, have mercy upon us and defend us under the shadow of your wings. Give your angels charge over us, that we might be preserved and kept in all our ways. Set your love upon us and receive us as your children by adoption through the merits of your only Son, our Redeemer, the Lord Jesus Christ. And at the end of our days make us partakers of a blessed eternity for the sake of him who died for us. Amen.