

A SHELTER FROM THE STORM

Biblical Refuges for the Saints

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Preface

This booklet gathers Scripture and brief reflections showing how the Bible pictures God’s people as sheltered, protected, and secure — especially in the reality of being “born again” and sealed by the Holy Spirit. It uses the King James Version (KJV) and includes the key Old and New Testament passages that speak of refuge, fortress, shelter, hiding place, under his wings, rock, tabernacle, pavilion, and related imagery. Use this for teaching, testimony, a sermon, or personal encouragement.

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1. Introduction: Kingdom, New Birth, and Shelter

To be born again (John 3) and to receive the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:38–39) is to be brought into God’s family and into His kingdom. Scripture repeatedly pictures that new status as entering a place of refuge and shelter — a safe place from the storms of the world. Below are the passages that most clearly teach this image, with short reflections following each cluster.

9. Old Testament Images of Refuge and Shelter

Psalms: God our Refuge, Rock, and Covering

- Psalm 9:9 — “The LORD also will be a refuge for the oppressed, a refuge in times of trouble.”
- Psalm 18:1–3 — “I will love thee, O LORD, my strength. The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; My God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation,

and my high tower. I will call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised...”

- Psalm 18:30 — “As for God, his way is perfect: the word of the LORD is tried: he is a buckler to all them that trust in him.”

- Psalm 27:5 — “For in the time of trouble he shall hide me in his pavilion: in the secret of his tabernacle shall he hide me; he shall set me up upon a rock.”

- Psalm 31:1–3 — “In thee, O LORD, do I put my trust: let me never be ashamed: deliver me in thy righteousness... For thou art my rock and my fortress; therefore for thy name’s sake lead me, and guide me.”

- Psalm 32:7 — “Thou art my hiding place; thou shalt preserve me from trouble; thou shalt compass me about with songs of deliverance. Selah.”

- Psalm 46:1 — “God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.”

- Psalm 59:16–17 — “But I will sing of thy power; yea, I will sing aloud of thy mercy in the morning: for thou hast been my defence and a refuge in the day of my trouble... Unto thee, O my strength, will I sing: for God is my defence, and the God of my mercy.”

- Psalm 61:3–4 — “For thou hast been a shelter for me, and a strong tower from the enemy. I will abide in thy tabernacle for ever: I will trust in the covert of thy wings. Selah.”

- Psalm 62:6–8 — “He only is my rock and my salvation: he is my defence; I shall not be moved...

God is a refuge for us. Selah.”

- Psalm 91:1-4 — “He that dwelleth 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... He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler.”
- Psalm 119:114 — “Thou art my hiding place and my shield: I hope in thy word.”
- Psalm 144:1-2 — “Blessed be the LORD my strength... My goodness, and my fortress; my high tower, and my deliverer; my shield, and he in whom I trust.”

Reflection: The Psalter gives the clearest and most frequent language of shelter. Believers dwell “in the secret place,” rest “under the shadow” and “under his wings,” and call God their rock, fortress, and hiding place.

Wisdom & Proverbs: The Lord as Strong Tower

- Proverbs 18:10 — “The name of the LORD is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe.”
- Proverbs 30:5 — “Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him.”

Reflection: Wisdom literature stresses the safety

of trusting God — His name and word are strong protection.

Prophets: Shelter from Storm, Tabernacle, Covert

- Isaiah 4:5–6 — “...there shall be a tabernacle for a shadow in the daytime from the heat, and for a place of refuge, and for a covert from storm and from rain.”
- Isaiah 25:4 — “For thou hast been a strength to the poor... a refuge from the storm, a shadow from the heat...”
- Isaiah 32:2 — “And a man shall be as an hiding place from the wind, and a covert from the tempest...”
- Nahum 1:7 — “The LORD is good, a strong hold in the day of trouble; and he knoweth them that trust in him.”
- Zephaniah 3:17 — “The LORD thy God in the midst of thee is mighty; he will save...”

Reflection: Prophets expand the shelter metaphor to nations and to the people of God — God provides shade, covert, and a tabernacle against storm and heat.

Historical & Royal Songs: God as Rock and Deliverer

- 2 Samuel 22:2–3 — “And he said, The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer...”
- 1 Samuel 2:3 — “Talk no more so exceeding

proudly... for the Lord is a God of knowledge...”

Job: Security, Hope, and Deliverance

- Job 5:19–20 — “He shall deliver thee in six troubles... In famine he shall redeem thee from death: and in war from the power of the sword.”
- Job 11:18 — “And thou shalt be secure, because there is hope; yea, thou shalt dig about thee, and thou shalt take thine rest in safety.”
- Job 23:9–10 — “If I go to the east... behold, he is not there... He knoweth the way that I take...”

Reflection: Job recognizes God’s deliverance and the security that hope in God brings even amid suffering.

1. New Testament Assurance: Born Again, Sealed, Kept

John and Acts: New Birth and the Gift of the Spirit

- John 3:3–8 — “Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again... That which is born of the Spirit is spirit.”
- John 10:27–29 — “My sheep hear my voice... And I give unto them eternal life... neither shall any man pluck them out of my Father’s hand.”
- Acts 2:1–4 — “And when the day of Pentecost was fully come... they were all filled with the Holy

Ghost...”

- Acts 2:38–39 — “Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized... and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost... For the promise is unto you, and to your children...”

Reflection: New birth and the Spirit bring believers into the secure community of God’s people. The Spirit’s presence is part of God’s sheltering work.

Paul, Hebrews: Sealed, Kept, an Anchor of the Soul

- Colossians 1:13–14 — “Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son...”
- Ephesians 1:13–14 — “In whom ye also trusted... Who is the earnest of our inheritance...”
- 2 Corinthians 1:21–22 — “...Now he which stablisheth us with you in Christ... Who hath also sealed us...”
- Romans 8:31–39 — “What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?... Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?... I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life... shall be able to separate us from the love of God...”
- Hebrews 6:18–19 — “...we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us, Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast...”

- Hebrews 13:6 — “...The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.”

Reflection: Paul and the epistles emphasize objective security: believers are delivered into Christ’s kingdom, sealed with the Spirit, and kept by God’s power. Hope is a sure anchor.

Peter and Revelation: Kept by God; the Final Shelter

- 1 Peter 1:3–5 — “Blessed be the God and Father... who by his power hath kept us through faith unto salvation...”
- 1 Peter 2:24–25 — “...but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls.”
- Revelation 7:15–17 — “...he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them... the Lamb... shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters...”
- Revelation 21:3 — “Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them...”

Reflection: The New Testament concludes with the assurance that God keeps and ultimately dwells with His people — the final, perfect shelter.

1. Practical Application: What Shelter Means for the Saints

- **Spiritual security:** Being born again and sealed by the Spirit means a believer is in God’s custody — not a license to sin, but a guarantee of God’s preserving love (John 3; Acts 2; Ephesians; Romans 8).
- **Refuge in trouble:** Psalm language invites believers to call on God, run to Him, and rest under His wings in trials (Psalm 91; 46; Proverbs 18:10).
- **Community shelter:** The church is where God’s people gather under His protection and where the Lord adds those being saved (Acts 2:47).
- **Final hope:** Revelation and Peter assure us that God’s shelter culminates in His dwelling with us and wiping away tears (Revelation 7; 21).

1. Use Ideas

- **One-page handout:** Use the booklet’s “Key Verses” (Psalm 91; John 3; Acts 2:38–39; Romans 8) as a tear-off scripture reminder.
- **Short sermon:** Theme — “The Kingdom — Our Shelter” (Text: Psalm 91 and Acts 2 + John 3).
Outline: (1) The Problem (storm), (2) The Promise (God as shelter), (3) The Provision (born again & Spirit), (4) The Practice (abide, trust, gather).
- **Small group study:** Read Psalms and compare prophetic/NT passages; discuss what “under his wings” looks like practically.

1. Complete Scripture Index — All Verses Quoted or

Cited (KJV)

Job 5:19–20; Job 11:18; Job 23:9–10

Psalms 9:9; Psalm 18:1–3; Psalm 18:30; Psalm 27:5;

Psalm 31:1–3; Psalm 32:7; Psalm 46:1; Psalm 59:16–17;

Psalm 61:3–4; Psalm 62:6–8; Psalm 91:1–4; Psalm

119:114; Psalm 144:1–2; Psalm 46:7,10 (noted)

Proverbs 18:10; Proverbs 30:5

Isaiah 4:5–6; Isaiah 25:4; Isaiah 32:2

Nahum 1:7

Zephaniah 3:17

2 Samuel 22:2–3

1 Samuel 2:3

John 3:3–8; John 10:27–29; John 1:12–13

Acts 2:1–4; Acts 2:38–39; Acts 2:47

Romans 8:31–39

1 Corinthians 10:13

2 Corinthians 1:21–22

Galatians 3:29; Colossians 1:13–14

Ephesians 1:13–14

Hebrews 6:18–19; Hebrews 13:6

Titus 3:5

1 Peter 1:3–5; 1 Peter 2:24–25

Revelation 7:15–17; Revelation 21:3

Matthew 11:28–30

Psalms and prophetic passages generally noted: (many more Psalms and prophets use similar language; the booklet focuses on the principal passages above)

2. Closing Prayer (short)

Lord, thank You that You are our refuge and strength. You shelter us under Your wings, seal us with Your Spirit, and keep us in the day of trouble. Help us to live as those who have entered Your safe place — trusting, abiding, and bringing others to Your shelter. Amen.

Summary list my booklet contains:

- A taught connection between being born again and entering God's shelter.
- Key Old Testament shelter passages (chiefly Psalms, Proverbs, Isaiah).