

# PSALM 91 vs 1

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This Psalm is without a title, and we have no means of determining either the name of its writer or the date of its composition. The Jewish doctors consider that when the author's name is not mentioned, we may assign the Psalm to the last-named writer; and if so, this is another Psalm of Moses, the man of God. He who can live in the spirit of this Psalm will be fearless.



Division – on this occasion we follow the divisions of this antiphon; being a conversation between a messenger bringing Good News... and the one who responds... ending with our great God who has been listening to this exchange, the state of the godly (1-2); their safety (3-8); their habitation (9-10); their servants (11-13); their friend, effecting them all (14-16) – Matthew Henry.

The messenger first speaks...

➡ **<sup>1</sup> He who dwells in the secret place** / in Hebrew the first word is a verb: **yashab**... which means: **to dwell**, to inhabit. And here in Psalm 91, we discover... an individual -- man or woman... is in focus; the next word is: *cether*; Psalm 119 speaks of a hiding place. Now days, we would best understand this as the place of an emergency, like a storm shelter hid from the hurricane; or the area identified by the yellow tape... sectioning a police or medical emergency – we are learning about:

**the one in a help zone, of the most High** / in Hebrew: ELYON...The Supreme; The Highest God... first recorded in scripture as the name God used when He spoke to Abraham... our father of faith.

The one who dwells in that shelter, that emergency zone... wherever it is: on the beach, in the office; on skid row; on death row; wherever someone needs the Lord's help, the promise is: He is there:

**abides under the shadow, of the Almighty** / this Hebrew name: **Shaddai**; is first identified with the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob... literally: the breasted One: from the beginning, the name best identifies His loving nature... with that of a mother who would nurture and comfort a child; the Lord will provide all that this one needs; this one who lodges... passing the night, under the shadow of El Shaddai, who is very close; this is the setting of the psalm:

**He who dwells... in the help zone of the most High,**

**abides under the shadow of the Almighty.**

Hearing this good news, that one responds...

➡ **<sup>2</sup> I will say to the LORD, my Refuge... my Fortress:**

**my God; on Him I lean** / one Hebrew word: **batach**; meaning... like leaning on a walking cane, I lean on the LORD; confidently, putting my full weight on Him... because He will be my support.

The messenger continues...

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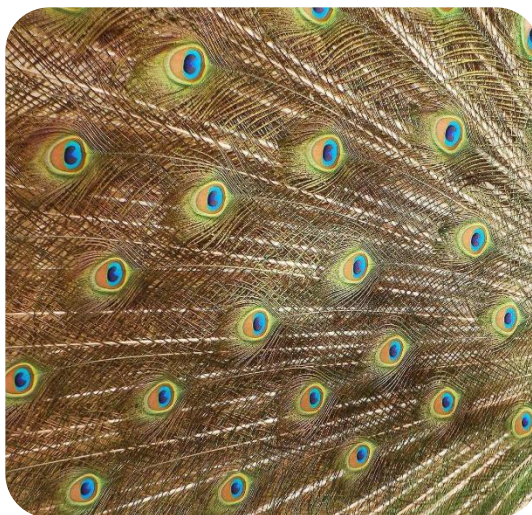
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➡ <sup>3</sup> **Surely He will deliver you** / so, are we remembering all these names of GOD? He is: the Most High; He is: the Almighty; He is YHWH; my Refuge; my Fortress... my God. God has always promised to be the Deliverer of His people. This word suggests: **to quickly grab and snatch away.**

**from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence** / from the poisonous plague, from whatever evil has been designed to entrap or destroy, He will deliver.

<sup>4</sup> **He will cover you with His feathers** / with his **pinions**: already displayed for the enemy of our soul to see. Moses describes a mother-hen coming to the protection of her chicks... this word: **will cover you**... is the same word used to describe the cherubim stretching forth their wings over the Ark of the Covenant... covering the mercy seat.

Did you know, in the high deserts, farmers know... rattle snakes do not like peacocks? When the peacock displays its pinions... all the farm animals, even rattlesnakes... know they are not safe and better flee!



**He will cover you with His feathers, and under His wings you will shelter** / this one word is: **hasa**; best understood when we see the trusting little chicks scurry for shelter... to hide beneath the mother-hen's wings. Here, Moses reminds us: Faith... is not merely a mental assent to something; but it is foremost an action word. running to the Shelter as fast as our little feet can carry us! God expects it; He's waiting... and ready to help... so do it!

**He will quickly grab you... He will cover you with His feathers,**

**and under His wings... you will scurry and take refuge:**

**His truth will be your shield and buckler** / don't even think twice about it, He is the way to safety. We can count on what He has said. He always speaks truth. If it was not so, He would have told us. It is the other one, the deceiver and enemy of our soul, who is the father of lies. But the Lord will deliver us from all his traps and snares and devices. His truth is our double duty protection; to buckle up and tie it together.

The messenger continues...

➡ <sup>5</sup> **You will not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flies by day;**

<sup>6</sup> **nor for the pestilence that stalks in darkness; nor for the destruction that wastes at noonday** / no need to fear the missiles or bullets... so more clearly: whatever is coming your direction -- day or night; you won't need to be afraid.

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**7 A thousand will fall at your side, and ten thousand at your right hand;**

**but it will not come near you** / Wow! in other words, you may find yourself... standing alone; you know, Jesus said, the gates of hell will not prevail; but He does not suggest those damned gates of hell will not try! That is His promise!

**8 Only with your eyes will you behold and see... the reward of the wicked.**

Once again, this one declares...

 **9 The LORD... is my Refuge!**

So the messenger continues...


 **Because you have made the most High, your habitation;**

**10 no evil will befall you there,**

**nor will any plague come near your dwelling** / under the shadow of the Most High.

**11 For He will give His angels charge over you, to keep you in all your ways.**

**12 They will carry you in their hands, lest you dash your foot against a stone.**

 **13 You will tread upon the lion and adder** / that old roaring lion; that old serpent and enemy of our soul:  
**the young lion and the dragon** / the junior evil aspirants; and should the occasion arise, even evil himself  
**will you trample under feet** / in great victory!

Now, the Lord GOD has been listening to this conversation, and it is as if He Himself got excited with all this Good News; and now He is going to speak... So pay attention!



**14 Because he clings to Me, therefore I will deliver him** / because he loves Me... and won't let go!  
I will bring him to safety:

**I will set him on high, because he knows My name.**

**15 He will call Me, and I will answer:**

**I... with him in the trouble** / and did we hear that? He is there ...in the day of our distress, if we call on Him; He is there... in the time of our affliction. He comes to join us in the trouble. Psalm 20 says, The LORD hears you in the day of trouble. Our tendency is to say: **God, get me out of my trouble.**

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But it is in the trouble, where our faith and confidence in the LORD God is tried in the fire, and we discover again and again: He can be trusted. It is as if GOD Himself wants to jump into the messy situation; and beat up all the alligators and crocodiles encircling us.

**I... with him in the trouble, I will deliver him** / this word is: **chalats**; it means not only to deliver, or to rescue; but the Lord GOD says He will be there **to equip for battle!**

**and honor him** / as our FatherGod tells us: honor your father and mother; so our Father will honor this one.

**16 With long life I will satisfy him,**

**and show him My salvation** / this Hebrew word is evidence of God's great goodness, and incredible generosity to all who will run to Him; who will lean on Him. This word for salvation is: **yeshua**. It means: **salvation**; but it also means: deliverance, health, welfare, prosperity... and victory! What is also interesting is that... from this word, we get the name for **JESUS**. So what is God saying?



**Because he clings to Me...**

**I will deliver him.**

**because he knows My name... he will call Me,**

**and I will answer.**

**I... with him... in the trouble.**

**I will deliver him; and honor him;**

**With long life I will satisfy him,**

**and show him My Salvation.**

**My Yeshua.**

**My JESUS!**

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**Salvation is Your Name** | **This is My Father's World** | **JESUS it is YOU**

Check out: Our Brothers and Sisters Around The World Singing GOD'S Praise:  **The Songlist**

**The Spirit and the Bride Say Come**

**The Sheep Hear His Voice And They Follow Him**