**JESUS, THE ONLY SAFE PLACE**

**HOW MANY TIMES HAVE WE HEARD PEOPLE SAY IN RECENT YEARS, “I DON’T FEEL SAFE?” SOMETIMES IT’S BECAUSE THEY REALLY WEREN’T SAFE. BUT OTHER TIMES IT WAS JUST A FEELING.**

**ON THE OTHER HAND, THERE ARE MANY PEOPLE WHO FEEL SAFE, NOT REALIZING THAT THEY ARE ACTUALLY IN IMMINENT DANGER.**

**WE ALL KNOW THE VALUE OF BEING SAFE, BUT ISN’T IT TRUE THAT IF YOU DON’T FEEL SAFE, YOUR QUALITY OF LIFE IS SIGNIFICANTLY DIMINISHED DESPITE THE LEVEL OF DANGER.**

**I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT OUR GOD KNOWS THAT BOTH BEING SAFE AND FEELING SAFE ARE IMPORTANT.... AND I WANT TO SHOW YOU SOME OF THE THINGS HE HAS SAID ABOUT THEM.**

**OUR GOD WANTS US TO BE PHYSICALLY SAFE… MENTALLY SAFE… EMOTIONALLY SAFE… FINANCIALLY SAFE… AND ETERNALLY SAFE… WHICH IS THE MOST IMPORTANT.**

**NOW, LET’S WALK THROUGH PSALM 91 AND SEE WHAT WE FIND…**

**Psalm 91 (NKJV)** He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High Shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. **2** I will say of the Lord, “He is my refuge and my fortress; My God, in Him I will trust.” **3** Surely He shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler And from the perilous pestilence. **4** He shall cover you with His feathers, And under His wings you shall take refuge; His truth shall be your shield and buckler. **5** You shall not be afraid of the terror by night, Nor of the arrow that flies by day, **6** Nor of the pestilence that walks in darkness, Nor of the destruction that lays waste at noonday. **7** A thousand may fall at your side, And ten thousand at your right hand; But it shall not come near you. **8** Only with your eyes shall you look, And see the reward of the wicked. **9** Because you have made the Lord, who is my refuge, Even the Most High, your dwelling place, **10** No evil shall befall you, Nor shall any plague come near your dwelling; **11** For He shall give His angels charge over you, To keep you in all your ways. **12** In their hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone. **13** You shall tread upon the lion and the cobra, The young lion and the serpent you shall trample underfoot. **14** “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. **15** He shall call upon Me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him and honor him. **16** With long life I will satisfy him, And show him My salvation.”

**AS YOU CAN SEE… GOD MAKES MANY PROMISES OF PROTECTION TO THE PERSON WHO DWELLS IN THE SECRET PLACE OF THE MOST HIGH.**

**Proverbs 18:10 (NKJV)** The name of the Lord is a strong tower; The righteous run to it and are safe.

**SO HOW DO YOU “RUN” TO THE STRONG TOWER OF THE LORD?**

**LISTEN TO…**

**Joel 2:32 (NKJV)** And it shall come to pass that whoever calls on the name of the Lord **shall be saved**.

**NOTICE… YOU RUN TO THE NAME OF THE LORD, NOT WITH YOUR LEGS… BUT BY CALLING OUT TO THE NAME OF THE LORD. AND HIS NAME IS JESUS.**

**WE NEED TO NOT BE SO PRIDEFUL AND SELF-SUFFICIENT… WE NEED TO HUMBLE OURSELVES AND CALL OUT TO JESUS.**

**AND WHAT WILL HAPPEN?**

**THE HEBREW WORD TRANSLATED “SHALL BE SAVED” LITERALLY MEANS “SHALL ESCAPE.”**

**THEREFORE, THIS PASSAGE IS TELLING US THAT… IT SHALL COME TO PASS THAT WHOEVER CALLS ON THE NAME OF THE LORD SHALL ESCAPE WHATEVER IS THREATENING THEM.**

**PRAISE GOD!**

**NOW… THE APOSTLE PAUL QUOTED THIS VERSE IN…**

**Romans 10:13 (NKJV)** “Whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be **saved**.”

**THE GREEK WORD TRANSLATED “SAVED” MEANS “TO BE DELIVERED OR RESCUED.”**

**THEREFORE, SINCE WE KNOW THAT THE NEW TESTAMENT IS ALSO INSPIRED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT… THIS PASSAGE IS ALSO TELLING US THAT… WHOEVER CALLS ON THE NAME OF THE LORD SHALL BE DELIVERED AND RESCUED FROM WHATEVER IS THREATENING THEM.**

**THEREFORE, THE BIBLE TEACHES US THAT ANYONE WHO CALLS ON THE NAME OF THE LORD WILL BE DELIVERED AND RESCUED AND THEREFORE WILL ESCAPE WHATEVER IS THREATENING THEM.**

**PSALM 18:3 SAYS IT LIKE THIS…**

**Psalm 18:3 (NKJV)** I will call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised; So shall I be saved from my enemies.

**SO RUNNING TO GOD… CALLING OUT TO HIM… AND OBEYING WHAT HE TELLS YOU TO DO WILL BRING SAFETY TO YOUR LIFE.**

**HOWEVER, YOU CAN BE SAFE AND NOT FEEL SAFE.**

**HOWEVER… IF YOU BELIEVE THESE PROMISES, YOU WILL ALSO FEEL SAFE INSIDE… EMOTIONALLY AND MENTALLY.**

**LISTEN TO…**

**Isaiah 26:3 (NKJV)** You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You.

**IF YOU WILL KEEP YOUR MIND ON JESUS, AND WHAT HE SAYS IN HIS WORD, YOU WILL EXPERIENCE SUPERNATURAL PEACE.**

**WHAT ABOUT WHEN YOU’RE AFRAID OF WHAT PEOPLE WILL DO?**

**Psalm 27:1–3 (NKJV)** The Lord is my light and my salvation; Whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; Of whom shall I be afraid? **2** When the wicked came against me To eat up my flesh, My enemies and foes, They stumbled and fell. **3** Though an army may encamp against me, My heart shall not fear; Though war may rise against me, In this I will be confident.

**LISTEN TO…**

**Psalm 34:1–4 (NKJV)** I will bless the Lord at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth. **2** My soul shall make its boast in the Lord; The humble shall hear of it and be glad. **3** Oh, magnify the Lord with me, And let us exalt His name together. **4** I sought the Lord, and He heard me, And delivered me from all my fears.

**DO YOU SEE… THE LORD WILL DELIVER YOU FROM ALL YOUR FEARS.**

**DO YOU REMEMBER PHILIPPIANS 4:7?**

**Philippians 4:7 (NKJV)** and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

**TALK ABOUT SURPASSING ALL UNDERSTANDING… LISTEN TO…**

**Psalm 46:1–2 (NKJV)** God is our refuge and strength, A very present help in trouble. **2** Therefore we will not fear, Even though the earth be removed, And though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea;

**IT CAN’T GET MUCH WORSE THAN THAT.**

**OKAY, DOES JESUS KEEP YOU SAFE FINANCIALLY? OH YES HE DOES. LISTEN TO THE BEGINNING OF PSALM 23…**

**Psalm 23:1 (NIV)** The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing.

**YOUR SHEPHERD, JESUS, WILL TAKE CARE OF ALL YOUR NEEDS… IF YOU FOLLOW HIM.**

**FIVE WAYS TO MAKE 2024 A YEAR IN THE SECRET PLACE**

1. **Determine a daily time and place to meet with Jesus**
2. **Choose a Bible reading plan for 2024 and stick to it**
3. **Read with a listening heart, expecting Jesus to speak to you**
4. **If you miss a day or days, jump right back in**
5. **Use the Lord’s prayer as a guide, and call out to God**