

The Open Secret

He that dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

– Psalm 91:1

The Bible repeatedly reiterates a secret that is open to any and all who want to hear it and act upon it, and that is that any individual human being (me and you included) can be as close to God as we want to be. Why so few avail themselves of nearest proximity to the Master is likely due to the ownership clause that He holds in the relationship – i.e., that it's His house, not ours; His rules and His ways will govern the tenor and tone of our inward abode and outward conduct should we desire to constantly abide in Him. Yet it is the best life there is – life abundant and free – that He invites us to when we dwell in His secret place and abide under His shadow.

He can and will be our dwelling place, indeed, should we choose to take Him up on His offer. He seeks to be our home to which we incessantly return when the dangers of this world threaten us, when the enemy seeks our demise, or when the effects of the curse overwhelm us. And not just our home, but our refuge and our fortress – both our hiding place from the storm as well as the rampart from which we can securely mount a counter assault.

But if He is to be such to us, we must learn to be comfortable in His presence, never forgetting that we are sinners – redeemed, yes, but sinners still – and He is the High and Holy One who inhabits eternity. To be sure, He has cleared the way to the throne of grace by the blood of His dear Son. Yet the onus is upon us bring ourselves thereto time and again in honesty and openness before Him. As we do, we will begin to sense and ultimately know with full confidence that we are safely and continuously welcome in the secret chamber of the King of the universe.

Dwelling in the secret place of the Most High brings a plethora of benefits. We become aware of the snares of the enemy, and God provides us with special grace to avoid them. The noisome pestilences of a cursed creation, while still wielding their power over the flesh, have no effect upon the inner man when we make the Lord our abode. Cancers, syndromes, neurological disorders, etc. flail and retreat from the inner sanctum of the believer who boasts God as his home and Friend. Even the arrows that fly by day – e.g., the increasingly present dangers in a society unhinged and deranged due to its untethering from God and His Word – are powerless against those to whom God has commanded His mighty and holy angels to protect and deliver until the appointed day of their homegoing.

When we set our love upon Him, He will deliver us. There is great reciprocity in an intensely intimate relationship with Jehovah. We call, and He answers. When trouble comes, He is there. His deliverance is sure. He will exalt and honor those who exalt and honor Him in all their ways.

The first disciples asked Jesus, "Where dwellest thou?" He replied simply, "Come and see." (John 1:38-39). The invitation still stands today. Come and see and dwell in the secret place of the Most High – our Lord Jesus Himself. Practice His presence and be assured that He will continuously show you His salvation. – *D. Murcek*