

Lesson 15 - Notes

Genesis 15:1 - After these things the Lord's message came to Abram in a vision: "Fear not, Abram! I am your shield (HEB: magen) and the one who will reward you in great abundance."

The LORD's _____ is your _____.
You need not be _____.
He will protect you _____ all trouble.



Understanding Psalm 91

- Trusting in God's *faithfulness* is different than trusting in our desired outcome.
- Jewish Musar teachings – the Hebrew term for putting one's trust in God is *bitachon*.
- When we feel worry, anxiety, fear, or find ourselves clinging to something other than God, it's an *invitation* to *practice* trusting His faithfulness.
- Trusting makes us brave. When we realize God is with us regardless of the outcome, we find peace. We are also freer to act on our convictions, stop striving, take risks, etc.
- It's difficult (if not impossible) to make sense of suffering *in the moment*.
- Our challenges and tragedies bring growth *if we let Him*. It's our choice to grow, or build walls of anger or distrust in God.

YouTube: "Trusting God in Difficult Times – Psalm 91 Meditation by Tim Keller"

VIDEO REFERENCES:

- Luke 4 – Jesus in the wilderness (Satan quotes Psalm 91:11-12)
- Gen. 50:20 – Joseph and his brothers
- Romans 8:28 – God promises to work all things together for the good of those who love him
- Luke 21:16-18 – Jesus tells the disciples they will be persecuted

- God, *Himself*, is our safety when we let Him possess our souls ahead of all else.
- Ps 91:4 - The mother hen is a *substitute* for her chicks—she stands between them and the perils. She takes the sun, the rain, or the predator's attack on their behalf. In the same way, Jesus took our sin on the cross.

Song: "You Are My Hiding Place"

YouTube: "El Shaddai Medley/You Are My Hiding Place" from Jesus Image Church

LYRICS:

You are my hiding place;
 You always fill my heart with songs of deliverance,
 whenever I am afraid...
 I will trust in You.

I will trust in You.
 Let the weak say I am strong
 in the strength of the Lord.

HYMN HISTORY: In 1980, Michael Ledner composed "You Are My Hiding Place" at age 27 when he was going through a painful period of separation from his wife. He was living in a small, rented room in Tucson, Arizona where he wrote the song using his Bible, guitar, and painful feelings. He shared the song with several friends, made a recording of it, and set it aside. Nine months later he shared the song with a group in Israel. They took the song back with them to California, and after it was sung there, Michael was contacted by Maranatha! Music who wished to record it. Years later, he became a pastor and was married again.

SCRIPTURE THAT INSPIRED THE SONG:

- Psalm 32:7 - "You are my hiding place; you will protect me from trouble and surround me with songs of deliverance."
- Psalm 56:3 - "When I am afraid, I will trust in you."
- 2 Cor. 12:9-10 - "But he said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.' Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, I am strong."