

Series: Victories in the Valleys

“The Valley of Warfare”

C.R. 10-28-18

**Text:** Psalm 91

**Intro:** Today we will continue in our series Victories in the Valley. Last week we looked at having victory over ritual religion and getting caught in a rut when it comes to our walk. Today we will look some of the essentials to having victory when it comes to the grind of warfare. We can't escape it. We will face warfare and battles until Jesus calls us home, but this Psalm has some great truths for us today.

Psalm 91 is a beautiful Psalm, and it is hard to ignore that this Psalm deals with warfare. Notice the words shelter, refuge, fortress, shield, terror by night, destruction, guard and rescue. Certainly this was a Hymn written to the Nation of Israel, but it most definitely has application for the daily battles we face with the enemy. Let's take a closer look at a few of the essentials to winning the victory in the valley of warfare.

**1) Be in the Right Place. (v. 1-4)**

- a. These verses are the key to victory.
- b. The **word dwell** is translated meaning “to remain, sit, abide”.
- c. We might say live in conscious fellowship with, draw daily strength from, let Him habitually have first place”.
- d. Peterson said it this way. “You who sit down in the High God’s presence, spend the night in Shaddai’s shadow.
- e. It is quite clear that the key to the victory is abiding with God.
- f. Note the **word “abide”**. (v.2) means to lodge.
- g. This is not a casual meeting, this is hanging out with, dwelling, spending intimate time with.
- h. (v. 2) Notice the verse *says He is **our refuge*** (a place of rest), and fortress (place of defense).
- i. It does not say that He will provide these things, it says the Lord is these things.
- j. Trust (means total trust).
- k. **He delivers** form the snare of the trapper. Trap-something by which one gets entangled. Something deceptively attractive.
- l. If you want to be delivered, you must abide. Draw power from Him and His victory at Calvary.
- m. **He covers**= Like a bird watching over its brood. Under his protection.
- n. **He Shields**.

## 2) Have the Right Attitude (v. 5-10)

- a. No fear. (Terror, arrow, pestilence, destruction)
- b. Our enemy will stop at nothing to keep us in fear.
- c. **Rom 8:15** For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.
- d. **2Ti 1:7** For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.
- e. We must also have the attitude of faith.
- f. **Eph 6:16** Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.
- g. The object of our Faith is the Lord Jesus and his written word.
- h. **Swindoll:** "Nothing else can hold us together and keep us from panic in the way that specific verses and passages of written scripture do."

## 3) Recognize You Have Assistance (v. 11-13)

- a. Satan and the demons are supernatural beings and it only stands to reason that God would give us assistance in His angels.
- b. The **word charge** means to appoint, install, give command of.
- c. Angels are appointed to us.
- d. **Mat 18:10** Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you, That in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven.
- e. Angels guard us. Keep watch over, observe, take care of.
- f. **(V.12)** "**bear you up**". = To support sustain.
- g. Illustrate with Elisha and his servant.
- h. **2Ki 6:17** And Elisha prayed, and said, LORD, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see. And the LORD opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw: and, behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha.
- i. **Illustrate from John Philipps** commentary on David Brainard. Page 162 Exploring Psalm 91. See attached.

## 4) Hold on to the Promise. (v.14-16)

- a. Please understand that this hymn was written to nation of Israel, not to the church after the cross.
- b. We must be rational here. We are going to go through stuff.
- c. God wanted the nation to know that as long as you abide in me and do what I ask there is not a nation on earth that can touch you.
- d. God has not promised us immunity from persecution and trial. But he has promised to go with us all the way. "Lo I am with you always".

- e. We have a hiding place. A place to run to. He does not keep us from terror, but he does keep us in it.
- f. 4 Biblical truths to claim when in the valley of warfare.
  - i. The Cross. Declare Satan's defeat at Calvary.
  - ii. The Blood. There is Power in the Blood.
  - iii. The Name. Verbally state the full name of the Lord Jesus Christ.
  - iv. The Word. Stand firm on the written word. It is written.