

The Secret Place

A beautiful promise is recorded in Psalm 91:1 NKJ “*He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.*” Verse 4 declares “*He will cover you with His feathers and under His wings you will take refuge.*” What a thought – to be under the wings of the Almighty! Feathers and wings in scripture are figurative for protection and care. In addition the Holy Spirit is pictured in scripture as a dove.

What is this secret place? Can any believer enter or is it only reserved for the select or divinely favored “super spiritual?”

The secret place is the place where man finds refuge, protection, and shelter in the Almighty God. The man/woman who has chosen to receive God as his/her father can learn to dwell in the secret place/shelter where they can draw on the presence and power of the Holy Spirit. It is where we, by faith live as we grow in our knowledge of God’s love, provision, and character. This growth is nurtured by our time with Him both **reading and meditating on His word,**

praying, and **in silence before Him.** Our trust in His goodness is built up as we recognize His workings both in our lives and the lives of others. We grow into a deep, intimate fellowship with Him.

Prayer Relationship

Through the Bible we can know God as Savior, Lord, King, and Deliverer but only through prayer can we come to know Him as friend.

1. Many new believers in Christ perceive prayer as a list of needs, which are presented to our heavenly Father with specific, detailed suggestions as to the best answer. Frequently prayer is a one-way communication with many cries of “Help, help, help!” Hopefully we do not stay at this level indefinitely as we study and receive teaching on prayer.

2. As we mature in our relationship with our Lord and Savior our prayer life is deepened as we begin to include more thanksgiving, praise, and worship. This growth often comes as we experience His answers to the needs brought to Him in prayer. The time with Him takes on more of a two-way communication as we learn to be polite and give Him an opportunity to speak back to us. He may speak to us through scripture as we read and reflect on passages,

through inner impressions, and/or through flashes of insight directly to our minds. We become more comfortable spending time in silence before Him.

Hindrances in Learning to Abide in The Secret Place

1. Distractions that keep us from time apart with the Lord, reading and absorbing His word, praying, and soaking up His presence, often come from the enemy (Satan) who prowls around seeking whom he may devour (I Peter 5:8). He will do everything he can to keep us from a daily appointment with the creator, sustainer and God of the universe who waits for His creation man/woman to take time to be with Him. A decision needs to be made to hasten to that place of fellowship on a regular basis. Do not disappoint the Father by being a “no show.” Praying Song of Solomon 1:4a asking to be drawn to Him is a foundational truth often overlooked. Ask Him to reveal and provide an avenue of healing for anything (such as, but not limited to, **unforgiveness, taking offense, unconfessed sin, old unhealed wounds**) that would keep you from coming to Him in prayer and reflection. Do not depend on feelings.

We do approach God with awe and respect but we also need to really understand that he wants to be our intimate friend as well as our Lord and Savior. Believe that the King of Kings and Lord of Lords desires and

longs for an audience with YOU. He waits longing to fellowship with each of His children.

2. One of the greatest hindrances lies in our feelings of unworthiness. Song of Solomon assures us in 7:10 “*I am my beloved’s and his desire is toward me.*” We are only worthy because we have been clothed with Jesus Christ. (Galatians 3:26, 27)

Personalizing John 3:16 “*For God so loved me, _____, that he gave his one and only son that if I, _____, believe I should not perish but have eternal life*” assures us of His deep love. We should meditate on the wonder of that love, receive it, and let its warmth fill our inner being. I John 2:12-14.

Building Confidence to Dwell in the Secret Place

The believer’s daily quiet time should include time to give love to Him and receive His love back. It is a fellowship beyond the two levels of prayer described previously. The work of intercession has already been done. We enter into a restful abiding in His presence – a place of communing with Him. Just as we sometimes sit comfortably with a loved one on earth without an exchange of words so it can be with our Father in heaven. We will be moved to lavish words of love on Him as we feel more at home in His presence and start to receive His great love for us. Knowing He loves us causes us to

love Him back. **If our minds start to wander we refocus by calling on the name of Jesus.**

As we practice this abiding we learn to trust Him more. This paves the way for us to quickly call on the indwelling Holy Spirit as we face challenges. We grow in learning to turn to that place within where God resides in redeemed mankind. **I believe that the secret place is where we abide in God and He in us.** It is a place where deep, intimate friendship develops as it is nurtured. We grow to long for more of Him as we experience His grace and provision. It is in the quietness that peace comes as the “clamoring” voice of the world is drowned out. Our cares and burdens lose their urgency and take on an eternal perspective. We begin to see ourselves more clearly. Our failures do not hold us “hostage” as we drink of His unconditional love in this chamber of love. His love for us draws our hearts to love Him back and trust Him more. **We experience how good it is to love and be loved by God.**

The words of Psalm 36 the Message Bible “*How exquisite your love, O God. How eager we are to run under your wings.*” becomes our heart beat as we learn to cultivate a quiet heart. We begin to experience a sense of being tucked securely under His wings as we abide in the secret place.

Scriptural Blessings of The Secret Place

*I*n quiet reflection the powerful promises of Psalms 91 start to permeate our being. We read of God’s divine protection, His covering, and His faithfulness.

Verse one in the AMP. declares we will remain “*stable and fixed.*” He gives His angels charge over us. We have victory over evil as we are told we can trample the serpent (Satan). He promises He will deliver us and honor us. The scripture passage closes with a promise of long life and that we will see His salvation.

It should be noted that sometimes what appears at the moment to be a disaster turns out to have a completely different perspective as we look back on the event and see how God used it to mold us into His image.

We learn to rest in that place of union with God safe in the knowledge that He is our refuge and His faithfulness is our shield. Psalms 91:9 NIV encourages us to make the Most High our dwelling. **Purpose in your heart to consistently spend time in the Word, in prayer, and in praise, learning to be at home in God.** Abiding in the secret place will become a lifestyle and you will confidently possess the promised blessings.



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