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JESUS CORNER



PERSONAL REFLECTION

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MONTH'S ISSUE:

DWELLING IN THE SECRET PLACE OF THE MOST HIGH

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In a world filled with distractions and pressures, finding a place of true peace and rest is often elusive. Dwelling in the Secret Place invites you into a deeper understanding of Psalms 91:1, where we are called to abide under the shadow of the Almighty. This publication explores what it means to live under God's protective covering, allowing His presence to shape, guide, and transform every part of our lives...

Through reflections, practical insights, and heartfelt prayers, Dwelling in the Secret Place encourages you to cultivate a life deeply rooted in God's presence. This is more than just a call to prayer; it's an invitation to surrender, to be refined, and to embrace the fullness of God's peace and protection. Whether you're seeking strength for daily challenges or a renewed sense of purpose, may this devotional guide your journey closer to the heart of God, where true transformation begins.

DWELLING IN THE SECRET PLACE

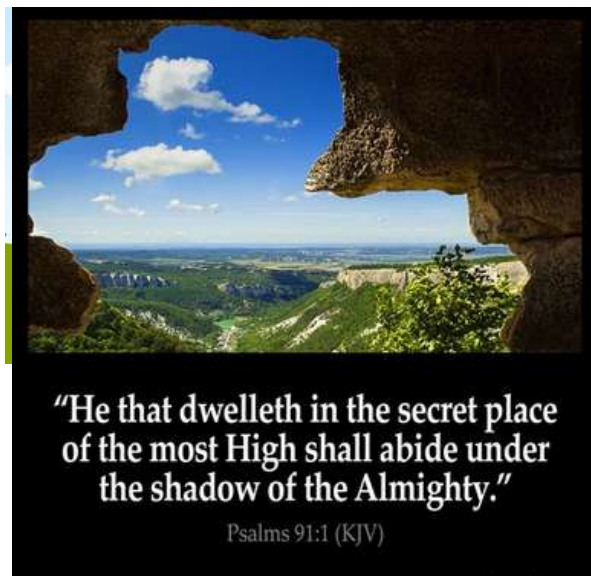
To dwell in God's secret place means more than just occasionally visiting Him in prayer or worship. It's a place of permanent residence—a lifestyle of consistent communion with God. Dwelling here signifies living under His constant presence, seeking Him in everything, and desiring nothing more than to be with Him, know Him, and be transformed by Him.

When we dwell in this secret place, God says, "I shine through you. I am seen, not you. I am valued, recognised, and praised in your stead." This is the essence of dwelling in His presence: God overshadows us so completely that our own image fades away, and He is magnified instead. The world around us sees Him in our words, our actions, and our character. Anything short of this—the idea of dwelling without being transformed—is a contradiction, an aberration. Dwelling in God's presence must lead to a complete transformation of our lives.

Consider it this way: when you frequently visit a place where the atmosphere is filled with cigarette smoke and alcohol, eventually, you'll start smelling of smoke. The scent clings to you. In the same way, when you immerse yourself in the presence of God, you begin to carry the fragrance of His love, grace, and holiness. You can't help but start reflecting His nature because you've spent time with Him, absorbing His presence. As you dwell in the secret place, His character, wisdom, and peace become part of you. You "smell like God," act like God, and reflect His qualities because you have been in His presence.

But this only happens if we fully submerge ourselves. Dwelling in God's presence requires more than a quick visit—it's a wholehearted, all-in commitment to be influenced by Him. It's allowing Him to interact with you, inspect your heart, and diagnose areas of your life that need healing or change. This time with God shapes us to look more and more like Him.

Just as Moses' face shone after spending forty days and nights on the mountain with God (Exodus 34:29), our lives should shine with the evidence of our time in His presence. Moses was physically transformed, and so should we be. It's impossible to dwell in God's presence and remain unchanged. If we are dwelling with Him, people around us should be able to see a difference in how we live, speak, and treat others.



DWELLING IN GOD'S SHADOW

When we say we dwell under the shadow of the Almighty, it signifies a complete trust in God. Picture this: if you're hiding in someone's shadow, they are in front of you, taking the heat of the sun and sheltering you. This is exactly what it means to live under God's shadow. God stands in front of us, bearing the heat and weight of life's pressures while we rest, hidden in His presence.

To dwell under God's shadow is to place complete faith in Him to handle the challenges and hardships we face. It's recognizing that He is the primary figure in our lives, and we're positioned under His protective care. In every trial, we trust that He will defend, provide, and guide us. When we abide in His shadow, we allow Him to bear the brunt of life's battles on our behalf. We don't have to fight for ourselves, as He covers us in His protection.

This doesn't mean life will always be easy. But it does mean that when storms come, we can rest assured that God will handle them. When we dwell under His shadow, He becomes our source of strength, our defender, and the One who takes the lead. We need not fear what comes our way because we are secure under His care.

A LIFE OF PEACE AND PROTECTION

The promise of dwelling in God's shadow is vividly described in Psalms 91:7: "A thousand may fall at your side, and ten thousand at your right hand; but it shall not come near you." This verse speaks to the profound protection we experience when we're living under God's covering. Though trouble may surround us, we remain untouched. When challenges or attacks arise, they come against God first, as we are hidden under His shadow.

Imagine this: you're tucked away in God's secret place, and though there is chaos outside, you are safely hidden, untouched by the turmoil around you. This is the promise of God for those who dwell in His presence. Life's difficulties may surround us, but they cannot reach us because we are shielded by God Himself. The "thousand" and "ten thousand" represent the troubles, fears, and pressures of life that threaten to overwhelm us. Yet God's shadow creates a protective boundary, so these challenges do not reach us.

A CALL TO REFLECTION

The beauty of dwelling in God's secret place is that it's open to everyone, yet few fully embrace it. Many approach God occasionally, seeking His presence only in times of need. But true transformation comes from dwelling—staying, resting, and committing ourselves to know Him more deeply.

As you reflect on Psalms 91, ask yourself: Am I truly dwelling in the secret place of the Most High? Am I trusting God to be my shield and my strength? Examine your relationship with Him. Let Him search your heart, remove anything that hinders you from drawing close to Him, and commit yourself fully to His presence. When we choose to dwell in God's secret place, we not only find protection and peace but also experience a transformation that makes us more like Him.

Remember, Jesus is coming soon, like a thief in the night. He will appear unexpectedly, so always be ready and alert. Live for Jesus always, abiding in His shadow and carrying the fragrance of His presence wherever you go. May we all strive to dwell in the secret place of the Most High, allowing His love, power, and presence to shape us into His likeness. God bless you.



PRAYER

Heavenly Father, draw me closer to You and teach me to truly dwell in Your presence. Help me to make my life a sanctuary where I constantly seek You, where I am transformed by Your Spirit, and where Your love and wisdom flow through me. May I never be satisfied with brief encounters, but instead desire to stay, abide, and dwell with You each day. Fill me with Your presence, Lord, that I may reflect You in all I do in Jesus name, Amen.