

Psalm 91:11-12

Served by Angels

Text: Psalm 91

Introduction:

1. God had promised that the seed of woman would crush the head of the serpent and the enemy of man would be defeated (Genesis 3:15).
2. He showed that this victory would include blessedness for all through the seed of Abraham (Genesis 12:1-3).
3. This Victor would be a mediator (Job 19:23-27), a ruler (Genesis 49:10), a star (Numbers 24:17), a prophet (Deuteronomy 18:15-19), a priest (1 Samuel 2:35), and a king (1 Samuel 2:10) - ruling from the throne of David (1 Chronicles 17:11-14).
4. During the time of David, the "sweet psalmist of Israel" (2 Samuel 23:1) recorded many prophecies of Jesus in the Psalms.
5. Psalm 91 reveals the Messiah as being served by angels...

I. THE SETTING OF THE PSALM

- A. This author of this psalm is unknown, though some suggest it may have been Moses.
- B. The occasion or context for this psalm is also unknown.
- C. This psalm was written in a responsive style and, perhaps, was meant to be sung that way.
 1. First Speaker (vs. 1-2) - "In Him will I trust"
 2. Second Speaker (vs. 3-4) - "Surely He shall deliver thee"
 3. First Speaker (vs. 5-8) - Response: "Thou shalt not be afraid"
 4. Second Speaker (vs. 9-13) - Response: "There shall no evil befall thee"
 5. God Speaks (vs. 14-16) *Outline by Lynn Matheny*
- D. The psalm may also be divided in this way:
 1. Vs. 1-4 - Security in Jehovah
 2. Vs. 5-13 - Safety from Destruction
 3. Vs. 14-16 - Salvation in Love

II. THE STUDY OF THE PSALM (PSALM 91)

- A. To dwell in the secret place of the Most High is to live in intimate fellowship with the Lord.
 1. The word for 'dwell' means, "To remain or abide" (cf. Psalm 1:1 - "sitteth").
 2. Simeon and Anna are great examples of this principle (Luke 2:25-38).
- B. In God's secret place, true fellowship is found with its abundant blessings!
 1. Protection (vs. 4; Ruth 2:12; Matthew 23:37)
 2. Friendship (cf. John 15:13-15)
 3. Confidence (cf. John 1:42)
 4. Character (cf. Philippians 1:21; 1 Peter 1:15-16)
- C. The faithful are cared for by God, having every need met.
- D. One instrument God used in caring for His people was the service of angels (vs. 11-12; Psalm 34:7; Hebrews 1:14).
 1. Angels are immortal (Luke 20:36).
 2. Angels served in revelation of God's will (Luke 1:19; 2:9-11; Acts 8:26; etc.).
 3. Angels served the righteous (Daniel 6:22; Acts 5:19-20; etc.).

Prophecy of Jesus

4. Angels delivered punishment from God (Acts 12:23; etc.).
 5. Angels worship God (Psalm 148:1-2; Revelation 5:11-13; etc.).
 6. Angels are concerned for the lost (Luke 15:10).
 7. Angels are subject to Jesus (1 Peter 3:22).
 8. Angels are limited in knowledge and power (Matthew 24:36; 1 Peter 1:12).
- E. God delivers those who love Him truly.

III. THE SAVIOR IN THE PSALM (PSALM 91:11-12)

- A. This passage was quoted by Satan in his temptation of Jesus (Matthew 4:6; Luke 4:10-11).
- B. Its application was not limited to Jesus, but it applied to Him as One who was righteous and holy.
- C. The meaning of this passage was demonstrated in the life of Jesus as angels ministered unto Him.
 1. Revealing His birth (Matthew 1:20, 24; Luke 1:26ff)
 2. Announcing His birth (Luke 2:10-15)
 3. Protecting Him (Matthew 2:13, 19)
 4. Serving Him after temptation (Matthew 4:11)
 5. Serving Him in suffering (Luke 22:43)
 6. Announcing His resurrection (Matthew 28:1-5; John 20:12)
 7. Announcing His ascension and return (Acts 1:9-11)
- D. Though not a specific prophecy, the passage has reference to the Messiah.