

Wisdom Not Worry
Wednesday, April 15, 2020
Psalm 91:1

“He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of *the Almighty*”

I love the color of my pickup. Its dark metallic blue sparkles in the sun. Unfortunately, its deep tone also reveals even the slightest scratch. Not long ago, an advertisement for a product caught my attention. It promised just what I needed. Just a few drops of this polish and a couple of rubs with a microfiber towel and “voila!” the most persistent of scratches would vanish. I couldn't order fast enough. Sadly, when the product arrived and I gave it a try, it worked no better than the other bottles of polish collecting dust on a shelf in my garage. It made big promises but failed to deliver.

Psalm 91 makes big promises, the kind of promises you want to hear in a pandemic. The psalmist declares, in pestilence and plague God will save you (3), cover you (4), guard you (11), protect you (14), deliver you, honor you (15) and satisfy you (16). He promises just what we need. But how can we be confident He will deliver? Because he is *El Shaddai*, the Almighty, the name which speaks of God's power to accomplish His purposes in the face of the seemingly impossible. The first time God reveals himself by this name is to Abram in Genesis 17. When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to him and said, “I am El Shaddai... I will make you a father of a multitude of nations.” What? Ninety-nine year old Abram and his ninety year old wife are going to have a baby? Impossible! No wonder God revealed himself to Abram as *El Shaddai*. When El Shaddai, God Almighty makes a promise, nothing can thwart His purposes. For those who rest in the shadow of El Shaddai, the promises of Psalm 91 aren't mere platitudes. In Christ, every one of them is “Yes and Amen” (2 Cor. 1:20).

Grateful,
Pastor Ben