

**Wisdom Not Worry**  
**Tuesday, April 21, 2020**  
**Psalm 91:3-4**

**Surely he will save you from the fowler's snare  
and from the deadly pestilence.  
He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge;**

Tucked between the militaristic images of God as "fortress" (vs. 2) and His faithfulness as a "shield and rampart" (vs. 4) is one of the strangest, yet most beautiful images of God's protecting love. God as a bird! Threatened by deadly pestilence, the Psalmist promises, "He will cover you with his feathers and under his wings you will find refuge." This might seem like flimsy comfort in the face of COVID 19's rapidly rising death toll. Yet few images of God display the *tender intimacy* and *fierce intensity* of His protecting love more clearly.

I recently read a story about a forest fire. The fire now under control, all that remained was to make certain no hotspots could rekindle the blaze. As the firefighters retraced their steps through the charred devastation, they came upon a blackened carcass of a bald eagle. The firefighter kicked its remains to the side of the trail and was dumbfounded by what he saw. Four little birds, flailed in the dust and ash and stumbled off. Giving her life for theirs, the mother had tenderly covered her chicks with her body, shielding them from the scorching flames. Instead of flying off to save herself, she died so they could live.

True or not, the story is a marvelous picture of our safety in Christ. Jesus proved his love for us in this: While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Since we have been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from wrath through Him (Romans 5:8). If He cares for the birds of the air, how much more will He not care for us? Are we not of much more value to Him than they are? (Matt. 6:26). It's no wonder God's people through the ages have been singing of the safety to be found under His wings. Before you begin your day, sing or listen to Ira Sankey's "Under His Wings" and take comfort in the refuge that is yours in Christ.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=geHcf\\_EtZ6A](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=geHcf_EtZ6A)

Under His wings I am safely abiding;  
Though the night deepens and tempests are wild,  
Still I can trust Him, I know He will keep me;  
He has redeemed me, and I am His child.

Under His wings, under His wings,  
Who from His love can sever?  
Under His wings my soul shall abide,  
Safely abide forever.

Grateful,  
Pastor Ben