

Wisdom not Worry
Monday, April 27, 2020
Psalm 91:7-10

A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand; but it will not come near you...
Because you have made the Lord your refuge, the Most High your habitation, no evil shall befall you,
no scourge come near your tent.

“No evil shall befall you, no scourge shall come near your tent.” What does this mean? Is this a promise Christians won’t experience death and disease? Are believers immune from the coronavirus? We know Christians who have contracted Covid 19 or a myriad of other afflictions and died. Does this mean they were not Christians? Or perhaps these promises don’t apply to us today? Is this a cruel case of false advertising? What does this mean?!

First, it means we will *never* experience an affliction which God’s love does not permit. David testifies, “You, oh God, are strong and You, oh Lord, are loving” (Psalm 62:11-12). When we suffer, it is not because He is too weak to protect us but that His Love was too great to spare us. His love permits it for our growth and His glory. His love guarantees the benefits of experiencing the affliction will far surpass the ease of avoiding it. If this is hard to accept, it is not because it isn’t so but only because you don’t see it yet. Pray for eyes to see and for a heart to trust even when you don’t.

Second, it means we will *never* experience eternal death. Sure, the statistical probability of death for believers and unbelievers alike is 100%. But those who have made the Lord their refuge live even though they die (John 11:25). We never need to fear what can kill the body because it can never touch the soul! This has comforted God’s people throughout the ages. Job confidently proclaimed, “After my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God!” (Job. 19:26). Asaph sings, “Though my heart and my flesh may fail, God is my strength and my portion *forever*” (Psalm 73:26). Paul captured this best when he wrote, “To live is Christ and to die is gain” (Phil. 1:26).

What are we afraid of, loved ones? If we make the Lord our refuge, no evil will befall us! In life and in death, we are more than conquerors in Him.

Grateful,
Ben