



Psalm 119:114 "You are my refuge and my shield;

I have put my hope in your word."

As Rod lingered in the hospital, we prayed for a liver and his healing. As we waited, I began to cling to God's Word as never before. It was the light in our darkness. Rod would sleep in his hospital bed and I would sit in the recliner beside him and read my Bible. Sometimes I would read quietly and sometimes I would read out loud for Rod to hear. Through those months of crisis, God gave me His hope, His promises, and His sustaining strength as I poured over the truths the Holy Spirit revealed to me. His Word came alive!

I learned in Bible study to personalize His Word. So I began the habit of inserting my name or the person I was praying for in place of pronouns and nouns in the verse. During the time of Rod's illness, I would insert Rod's name in the passages I would read to him. Applying the Bible to his life and situation gave us hope. My relationship with God grew deeper as I learned to believe and apply His Word. As I poured over Scripture, numerous passages pierced my heart. Several of those passages I prayed and claimed for Rod. Psalm 91:14-16 was especially meaningful as I inserted Rod's name in the verses. To this day, I continue to pray that passage for those I love.

I invite you to read Psalm 91, personalize it, and claim it for yourself. Whatever you are facing today may this scripture sustain you and give you hope. I pray you dwell in the shelter of the Most High. I pray you will trust that God is your refuge and fortress. Whatever the snare, trust that God will save you and cover you under his wings. Do not fear what comes at you, even the disasters that seem to overtake you. Know that God guards you. Because you love God, He will rescue you. He will protect you. You will call on him and He will answer you. He will be with you in trouble and he will satisfy you with long life and show you His salvation.

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Psalm 91(NIV)

1 Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High

will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.

2 I will say of the Lord, "He is my refuge and my fortress,

my God, in whom I trust."



3 Surely he will save you

***from the fowler's snare
and from the deadly pestilence.***

4 He will cover you with his feathers,

***and under his wings you will find refuge;
his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart.***

5 You will not fear the terror of night,

nor the arrow that flies by day,

6 nor the pestilence that stalks in the darkness,

nor the plague that destroys at midday.

7 A thousand may fall at your side,

ten thousand at your right hand,

but it will not come near you.

8 You will only observe with your eyes

and see the punishment of the wicked.

9 If you say, "The Lord is my refuge,"

and you make the Most High your dwelling,

10 no harm will overtake you,

no disaster will come near your tent.

11 For he will command his angels concerning you

to guard you in all your ways;



12 they will lift you up in their hands,

so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.

13 You will tread on the lion and the cobra;

you will trample the great lion and the serpent.

14 "Because he loves me," says the Lord, "I will rescue him;

I will protect him, for he acknowledges my name.

15 He will call on me, and I will answer him;

I will be with him in trouble,

I will deliver him and honor him.

16 With long life I will satisfy him

and show him my salvation."

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