

Good morning, Church. Daily Reading Ecclesiastes 3.

Psalm 91:5-7 "You will not fear the terror of night, nor the arrow that flies by day, nor the pestilence that stalks in the darkness, nor the plague that destroys at midday.

A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand, but it will not come near you." (NIV)

God has placed within us a certain level of fear for our own good. Fear can help us be cautious when making decisions. Fear can also help us put our trust and confidence in God, knowing that He will never leave nor forsake His own.

But fear does not have to consume or control us. While there are those who fear the sounds of the night, or that danger is all around in the day time, God assures us that as we place our trust in Him, as we shelter and abide in the shadow of His wings (vs 1) He will deliver us from evil. Faith wins over fear.

The enemy stalks around every corner, and destruction is present before us, but God is our refuge, our fortress. God calms our fears and strengthens our minds and our resolve that we will not allow the enemy to rob us of our joy in the Lord. We will not be victims but victors in Christ.

Any of the above may take a life, but with faith in Christ, we have no fear of death, and the sting of death has been removed and replaced with assurance of life eternal with Christ.

"Death is swallowed up in victory."

"O death, where is your victory?"

O death, where is your sting?"

The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." (1 Cor. 15:54b-57 Esv)

Happy Friday, I hope you are in church this Sunday.