

# Spiritual Warfare

Disarming the Enemy Through  
the Power of God

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**FISHERMAN**  
BIBLE STUDYGUIDES

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# In the Shadow of the Almighty

PSALM 91

*How can we turn our knowledge about God into knowledge of God? The rule for doing this is demanding, but simple. It is that we turn each truth that we learn about God into matter for meditation before God, leading to prayer and praise to God.*

—J. I. PACKER, *Knowing God*

**A**t the heart of spiritual warfare is our reliance on God's presence even in the darkest moments of life. When we feel overwhelmed by circumstances, when we are losing our grip on life, when we see no end to the tunnel or feel that we are literally walking through the valley of death, we need to be able to turn to a God who sovereignly loves us. We must have a clear and scriptural understanding of who God is and of his gracious, loving provision for us. This knowledge must penetrate down into our hearts where we can feel it and into our lives where we can see it at work.

The foundation for seeing victory in spiritual warfare is

maintaining a balanced perspective built on the actual operation of God's sovereignty in the battles we face. Such a picture is painted in Psalm 91, a psalm rich in metaphors of God's power and protection exercised on our behalf. What a wonderful place to begin this study!

1. Do you believe God is really sovereign over evil as well as over your life? Why or why not?

#### READ PSALM 91:1-8.

2. Four metaphors (word pictures) are used for God in verses 1 and 2. What does each of these metaphors tell you about God?

3. The psalmist used images relevant to his day. What are some images that would communicate the same ideas in contemporary terms today (e.g., God is my high-tech defense system)?

4. In verses 3, 5, and 6, the psalmist described various types of attacks. With these in mind, identify any sort of spiritual attack you may have faced recently, and discuss how you handled it.

Which one of the previous metaphors of God's provision is most meaningful for you in the circumstance you just described? Explain.

5. List the promises in verses 3-8 and briefly explain each in terms that fit contemporary life.

**READ PSALM 91:9-16.**

- ✎ 6. We are told to make God, the Most High, our dwelling (verse 9). Discuss what this might mean for you in one of the following areas of your life: your marriage, relationships with others, finances, your job, church.

What do verses 14 and 15 add to your understanding of dwelling in God?

7. Making God our dwelling is the condition for the promises that follow. How do we make God our dwelling?

- ✎ 8. In verses 10-13 God promises to command angels to “guard you in all your ways.” How have you been aware of this sort of protection?

9. Does this promise mean that nothing bad will ever happen to Christians? Discuss.

- ✎ 10. Are there any limitations on the promises given in verses 14-16? Explain your answer.

11. Choose one or two promises in this psalm that you consider most significant. Explain why this promise gives you confidence when you are facing spiritual battles and struggles.