

## *Ps 5.11-12—God is the Protector of His People*

### **Intro: Why we need God's protective care**

- I. In Ex 17, Moses built an altar called “The Lord is my Banner” to signify that God fights all our battles and wins all our victories.
  - A. If God wasn't on our side, every weapon formed against us would prosper. But as it is, the Lord is our high tower and stronghold and we don't need to be afraid, Ps 27.1.
- II. There are several reasons why we need God as our Protector.
  - A. We need protection from our enemies, Acts 14.22; 2Tim 3.12.
    1. No one can lift a finger against the church without the Lord rising up against him for evil and beside us for good.
  - B. We need protection from Satan, 1Pet 5.8-10.
    1. Satan is a ferocious lion, but he's on God's leash, Job 1.12.
  - C. We need protection from a fallen and seductive world.
    1. Satan corrupts and pollutes the world God made in order to try and destroy the church which God is raising up. But we need not fear his malice, Mt 16.18; Jn 10.28.
  - D. We need protection from error and division in the church.
    1. Satan seeks to deceive the church from the truth of God and divide the church by anger, pride, and selfishness. But God enables us to put on Christ and walk in truth and love, Eph 4.32; Col 3.12-15.
  - E. We need protection from the rising and stirring evil of our own hearts, Rom 8.4, 13-14; Gal 6.8-9.
- III. To protect us, God employs the greatest of means, leaving us no reason to fear anything.
  - A. All His attributes, Ps 56.9.
  - B. All His angels, Heb 1.14.
  - C. All His providence, Rom 8.28.
  - D. All His grace, Phil 1.6; Heb 12.2.

### **God protects those who seek refuge in Him**

- I. The wicked in vv.9-10 suffer God's judgment because they rebel against God, but the righteous seek their refuge in God and therefore enjoy God's protection.

- II. And God protects His people because they love His name, Jn 17.3.
- III. Thus, the righteous in v.12 are not those who are righteous in themselves, but those who enjoy righteousness as the gift of God, vv. 3, 7, 11; Rom 3.22; Phil 3.9-10.

### **God's protection causes us much joy**

- I. God's protection and care cause us to sing for joy and exult in Him.
  - A. The almighty God is the well-spring of our happiness.
    1. He sweetens the most bitter afflictions and lightens the heaviest of sorrows.
    2. We rejoice in God because He has become the God of our salvation, Ps 18.1-3.
  - B. We ever sing—ours is a perpetual praise because God's is a perpetual care.

### **God's favor is our protection**

- I. The root and cause of our protection is in the fact that God is pleased to bless us and crown us with His favor.
  - A. He does not treat us as our sins deserve, Ps 103.10-11.
  - B. His favor protects us as well as blesses us, Ps 84.11.

### **Responding to this truth**

- I. Rejoice in God's protection.
  - A. His eyes are upon us, His ears are open to us, His arms carry us, and Christ Himself embraces us.
  - B. The Lord goes before us and is our rearguard, Isa 52.12.
- II. Walk in the confidence of God's protection.
  - A. Out of a fear of injury or loss, we often stop in the way of duty or in the face of trial. But rather than preventing trouble, this only increases the trouble.
  - B. Let's go forward, assured that God is with us and His favor surrounds us as a shield. All will be well if we trust and obey.
- III. Remain in God's protection.
  - A. The protection of God is a blessing attending the ways of God, Ps 91.9-11.
  - B. Therefore don't go out of the way, but continue in the way in which the Lord's called you to walk because your protection is in *that* way and in no other, cf. 1Kgs 2.36-37.