

Empire Church of the Brethren
Sunday Service Sermons

28 January 2024

Our Hiding Place

Text: "You are my hiding place; you will preserve me from trouble; you will compass me about with songs of deliverance". Ps. 32:7

Where do you go when you need a rest from the world?

How about a quiet bath with no disturbances?

Does that work for you?

I used to go for a motorcycle ride in the foot hills.

I liked the coast but it was too busy with too many cars and people.

We need a place to get away and refresh ourselves.

With the title Hiding place we all think of Corrie ten Boom and her hiding place.

In her book she relates her experiences of torture by the Germans when they came to Holland.

Her family hid many Jewish people in a secret place that they had built in their house.

The Germans discovered the hiding place, and Corrie and her family spent many years in concentration camps.

During her persecutions, dangers, and troubles, she found great solace in the presence and power of God.

The Lord became a hiding place for her.

The psalmists referred to God as a shelter or hiding place.

Often David testified, "You are my hiding place,"

Various situations in David's life prompted this affirmation.

He found strength in God when he fought Goliath, the Philistine giant.

When he had to flee from the jealous rage of Saul, he found refuge in God.

When he led the armies of Israel into battle, he knew the Lord to be a hiding place.

Throughout David's life, he ran to God seeking refuge.

All of us need a hiding place.

David's life demonstrated a definite need for a hiding place.

Many good things could be said about David.

He was rich, strong, famous, a man after God's own heart.

A graph of his life would show many ups and downs.

He lived through a mixture of sunlight and shadows, times of laughing and crying.

David needed a hiding place for his diversified experiences of life.

All of us need a hiding place at various times and in sundry situations.

Life brings with it sunshine and shadows, triumphs and troubles.

Our lives are filled with so many activities that we live according to a clock and calendar.

The pressure of daily living drives us to a hiding place.

Sin's temptations force us to a hiding place.

When David was confronted with the reality of his sin, he ran to a hiding place with God.

He said, "You are my hiding place."

We are constantly assaulted by the satanic solicitor.

Temptation is a terror to us.

During times of temptation, we need a hiding place.

Our Lord was tempted, and he resisted.

When he resisted, angels came and ministered to him.

He too had a hiding place.

Dangers face us, and we are fearful.

Our world lives with the constant reminder that nuclear, biological, or chemical weapons could be used for a global war.

People have built underground shelters to protect themselves from nuclear fallout.

God can be our refuge during the threatening dangers of life.

Sorrows and sadness teach us the need for a hiding place.

During times of great grief, we especially need a hiding place.

David lost his son Absalom, whom he loved.

During the time of his stress he went to God, for he needed a hiding place.

All of us can have a hiding place.

David identified his hiding place.

David's hiding place was not in his royal standing, his knowledge, his possessions, or his friends.

He identified God as his hiding place.

"For you have been a shelter for me, and a strong tower from the enemy."

God is an amazing hiding place.

Only God is adequate for whatever life may bring.

Through the years people have found God to be a trustworthy hiding place.

David hid himself with the Lord centuries ago.

Corrie ten Boom found a hiding place in God in the twentieth century.

People have always found that God is greater and stronger than the dangers of life.

"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

Places of refuge are sufficient only if they are stronger than the storms.

You would not want to hide in a place that could be destroyed by a storm.

God is sufficient.

No trials or troubles are stronger than him.

"The name of the Lord is a strong tower: the righteous run into it, and are safe."

All of us can benefit from a hiding place.

David testified that the secret of his life was his relationship with the Lord.

A close examination of the writings of David will disclose references to numerous testimonies about God as the strength of his life, the guide of his life, and his close companion.

Going to God for a hiding place will bring many benefits to our lives.

First, we will enjoy the blessed presence of God.

Someone greater than ourselves walks with us throughout the pilgrimage of life.

His Word is a great comfort as we face a variety of life situations.

A second benefit of going to God for refuge is that we enjoy his protection.

"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

Of course God does not insulate his people against trouble, but he protects them during the trouble.

A third great benefit of going to God for a hiding place is that we gain God's perspective.

Times of private and corporate worship give a new outlook on life.

Have you prepared for the storms of life?

Or are storms battering your life right now?

Can you find refuge in God?

He never turns away those who repent of their sins and open their lives to him.

When you make this decision, you can say, "I have found a hiding place in Jesus my Lord."

Knowing that he will provide for you.

God is the one being you can always trust in.

Our hope lies in God!