

God's Witness Protection Plan

By Rev. Joan Hart

In the Bible, in Revelation 12:12, it warns us about the time before Jesus returns and when Satan will increase his rage. He knows he has only a short time left on this earth to torment God's children.

As God's children, we have learned how to live in the safety of God's presence. That's where we find peace in our storms, rest from harassment and are set free from fear.

When I speak of protection I don't mean that we will escape suffering. Many will face persecution and even death for Jesus' sake.

It says in II Tim 3:12, "All who ... live godly in Christ Jesus will be persecuted". If the enemies of God hated Jesus, they will hate us too!

In John 15:18-19 it says, "If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, therefore the world hates you."

But there is a place of immunity. In the shelter of the Most High, where the Lord wants us to stay.

We don't need to go through something so we desire to be in the presence of God. Worship can take us into His presence. Prayer can take us into His presence. Loving on Him can take you into His presence.

When you are full of joy over something you begin to praise Him for it and there you are again, in His presence. We need to learn how to stay there no matter what we go through. That is the Father's desire for us; to abide, to stay, to be in His presence. It is in that place that we will not be moved by what goes on around us or with us.

We have to grow up people and stop thinking about ourselves. What is important is that there is not enough hours in the day to share Jesus. We need to be like Him so others will see something different in us and want Him before He comes. We need to be an example to our families. What are we teaching them? To only watch t.v. and eat bonbons? Or are we allowing them to see us reading our Bibles, or praying? Do they see us happy or always grumpy. Your life is a book that others are reading whether or not you realize it.

Do you have a drive for something, a desire? If not, maybe the devil is trying to defeat you. That's his trick! He wants to keep you down and under so you will not function like God wants you to. But when you turn to the Lord and allow Him to have entrance into your life and get into His presence, then you are able to think better, act better and be better.

In Romans 8:37 it says, " We are more than conquerors through Christ". You are not to be defeated. You are living in God's witness protection plan!

God's Holy place where His Presence is, becomes our shelter. It's our protection from the plans of the enemy. Oh sure you have to go through stuff, but what matters is how you go through. Nothing you encounter in life can truly defeat you. God Himself

preserves us in all things. A cucumber is put into a jar to be preserved, but while it is in there it goes through some changes. Its flavor changes, its consistency changes and the inside changes. When it is released from the jar it becomes a pure delight to all those who taste it. It is changed and has become new. Others want what it has become.

When you receive Jesus, He begins a preserving process. You have to go through some changes in your thinking. You become a new creature in Christ. You allow the work of the Holy Spirit to make changes inside of you so that when you go out into the world, you are a sweet aroma. People will see Jesus and not you. You become a delight to all those who talk to you or smell the sweet fragrance of Jesus coming from you.

You have to get over self and stop worrying about yourself. Maybe you are in a place of isolation, maybe you are full of fear, or maybe you feel defeated. Honey, those conditions are not limits to God! Get lost in Him instead of self and you will get into the place of spiritual immunity, the witness protection plan of God. You will be in His shelter, the shelter of His wings.

Psalm 46:1 says, "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear..."

It's a choice you make. You choose to stay in God's witness protection plan and receive His strength and help or you can choose to live in fear. Not me, fear is not of the Lord!

We all are fighting a battle in one area, or another. For some it is in their family, for others it is in government issues. Maybe others are fighting a financial crisis. It seems like you just begin to make headway and then five other areas are in trouble.

In Dan. 7:25, He warned us of a time when the enemy would wear down the saints.

But God gave us Psalm 91 and we need to grab onto that. Pray it daily. God's word is a place of replenishing life, it's a fountain of eternal life where we can be protected.

We put God's Word in and speak it out. Those words go out into the atmosphere and are waiting for God's command to fulfill them. God is waiting for us to believe and speak the right way about the things in our lives, so He can protect us by the words of our own mouth.

Today is not the time to sit back and let others do what God wants you to do. It is up to each individual to have a rich full life in Jesus. Each one is responsible to read the Bible. Each one is responsible to teach those around them about the Lord. Each one is responsible to get into the presence of the Lord. You are the one who needs to take the time to talk to the Lord daily, You are the one who needs to take the time to praise the Lord. You are the one who needs to begin speaking out loud the Scriptures that apply to your life. You are responsible for yourself and your little children. We will answer one day for what we didn't do, or what we did do.

We have to fight like never before. Even if your only fight is to stay afloat, get into God's witness protection plan. You are His witness and He will help you, comfort you, love you, provide for you, and be your best friend. He will always be there for you no matter what and He will give you great peace! Just do your part and He will do the rest!