**Psalm 91 Diagram**

**for Blog Post June 17\_2020**

**Feel free to share this diagram with others, but please acknowledge**

**Freda Farmer at** [**www.wordsofhopeandhealing.com**](http://www.wordsofhopeandhealing.com) **as the source.**

**See the last page for explanation of the markings.**

Section 1 (v. 1 thru 8)

**[**1] He who **dwells** in the secret place of the Most High shall remain

stable and fixed under the shadow of the Almighty [whose power no foe can withstand].

[2] I will **say** of the Lord, He is my Refuge and my Fortress, my God;

* on Him I
	+ lean
	+ *and* rely
	+ *and* confidently **trust** !!!! (extra !!! added)

[3] For [then] He will deliver you from the snare of the fowler

and from the deadly pestilence.

[4] [Then] He will cover you with His pinions, and

under His wings shall you trust *and* find refuge;

His truth *and* His faithfulness are a shield and a buckler.

[5] You shall not be afraid

* of the terror of the night,
* nor of the arrow (the evil plots and slanders of the wicked) that flies by day.
* [6] Nor of the pestilence that stalks in darkness,
* nor of the destruction *and* sudden death that surprise *and* lay waste at noonday.

[7] A thousand may fall at your side, and ten thousand at your right hand, but it shall not come near you.[8] Only a spectator shall you be [yourself inaccessible in the secret place of the Most High] as you witness the reward of the wicked.

Section 2 (v. 9 thru 13)

[9] Because you **have made** the Lord your refuge,

and the Most High your dwelling place,

[10] There shall no evil befall you, nor any plague or calamity come near your tent.

[11] For He will give His angels [especial] charge over you to

* + accompany
	+ and defend
	+ and preserve you in all your ways [of obedience and service].

[12] They shall bear you up on their hands, lest you dash your foot against a stone

[13] You shall tread upon the lion and adder; the young lion and the serpent shall you trample underfoot;

Section 3 (v. 14-16)

[14] Because he **has set** his love upon Me, therefore

* I will deliver him;
* I will set him on high

because **he knows**

***and* understands** My name

[has a personal knowledge of My mercy, love and kindness—trusts

and relies on Me,

knowing I will never forsake him, no, never].

* [15] He shall call upon Me, and I will answer him;
* I will be with him in trouble,
* I will deliver him and honor him.
* [16] With long life will I satisfy him
* and show him My salvation.

Comment: Seven sometimes symbolizes completeness or perfection. God promises “I will” seven times in verses 14 thru 16, but each is conditioned upon our actions.

**Prayer for Guidance as you Study**

Dear Father, thank You for Your Word, which gives us life. We ask You now to guide us as we strive to please You with our study and correctly handle Your word (2 Timothy 2:5). Thank You for Your promise in 1 John 5:14-15 which gives us confidence that You are guiding us, because You clearly want us to study Your Word. We love You, Lord, and we thank you for the privilege of studying Your Word. Amen!

*“And this is the confidence we have in approaching God, that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us--whatever we ask--we know that we have what we asked of him.” I John 5:14-15 (NIV)*

**Explanation of Markings**

* Underlined words indicate cause and effect relationships, the “if/thens”.
* Words in braces { } indicate thoughts that seem to belong together.
	+ Arrows point from the cause to the effects of the ideas in braces.
* **Words in bold** indicate actions we must take: dwell, say, trust, make, set, know, and understand.
* **Connecting words are underlined and are used as dividing points,** to divide a passage into smaller sections. This highlights cause and effect, or God’s “if-thens”.
* Also, putting lists in vertical form rather than linear form helps me remember them better.

**Comments**

**Why diagram the Word?** Research consistently suggests that the more ways you interact with information, the stronger your memory of it will be. Diagramming adds another dimension to written words. For me personally, it dramatically enhances understanding.

**Try diagramming your favorite passages and verses.** Sit down with yourBible, a piece of paper, a pen and ask Holy Spirit for help. If a child asks a loving father for food, will he give him a rock or something harmful? (Luke 11:11)

**Still have your doubts?** As I worked on Psalm 91, I saw the footnote included in the Bible Gateway text. “The rich promises of this whole chapter are dependent upon one’s meeting exactly the conditions of these first two verses (see Exodus 15:26)”. Now, I did not see that footnote until after I had diagrammed Psalm 91, but diagramming it, the best I could, showed me the same truth Holy Spirit had revealed to the Biblical scholar who wrote that footnote. My point? Holy Spirit will help you study the Word, no matter your education or training, if you ask and just give it your best. God does not show favoritism (Romans 2:11, NIV) God longs to teach you, as He says in Proverbs 4:10-13, and the entirety of the first four chapters of Proverbs. God IS good!!