

Safe in the Arms of God

During the cold dark days of WWII a young six year old girl and her family were evacuated to the English Lake District. Recently recalling a particularly scary night, she said, "A storm had broken over our heads. Rain, like giant tears, slashed against the window and thunder grumbled. I didn't like storms, and I was old enough to understand that an even bigger storm was raging, a war involving the entire world. But it seemed so far away. The fire was warm and my father was relaxed in his big chair. Suddenly, aware that I needed reassurance, he put down his paper and smiled, "Come here little girl," he said in his quiet but commanding voice. And then I was safe in his arms, lying against his shoulder and feeling the beat of his heart. Looking back, I realize how my Heavenly Father shelters me from the storms of life."

If life's storms are overwhelming you today, you need, by faith in Jesus Christ, to climb into your Heavenly Father's Arms...feel the beat of His heart...and rest assured knowing that He is bigger than any storm you will ever face.

Deuteronomy 33:26-29

The verses we have just read are part of what **verse 1** tells us, "*Now this is the blessing with which Moses the man of God blessed the children of Israel before his death.*" The Old Testament clearly teaches that God chose the children of Israel to be His children, His people, through which the nations of the earth would see His glory. As Christians, we realize that through the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ we by faith have been adopted into God's family. We are His children and He is our Father. **Romans 8:14-17** clearly tells us, "*For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father." The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs---heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.*"

Take a closer look at our God who shelters us safely in His arms:

1st There is no god like our God. v. 26a

"There is no one like the God of Jeshurun..." Jeshurun means righteous, it was the symbolical name of Israel.

Exodus 15:11 *"Who is like You, O LORD, among the gods? Who is like You, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders?"*

Psalms 68:3 *"O God, You are more awesome than Your holy places. The God of Israel is He who gives strength and power to His people. Blessed be God!"*

2nd God will go to any lengths to help His children. v. 26b

"Who rides the heavens to help you, and in His excellency on the clouds."

Psalms 103:13 *"As a father pities his children, so the LORD pities those who fear Him."*

Philippians 4:19 *"And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus."*

3rd There is no place more secure than in the arms of God. Vv. 27-28

"The eternal God is your refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms; He will thrust out the enemy from before you, and will say, 'Destroy!' Then Israel shall dwell in safety, the fountain of Jacob alone, in a land of grain and new wine; His heaven also will drop dew."

In the words of Elisha A. Hoffman:

"What a fellowship, what a joy divine, leaning on the everlasting arms;
What a blessedness, what a peace is mine, leaning on the everlasting arms.
What have I to dread, what have I to fear, leaning on the everlasting arms?
I have blessed peace with my Lord so near, leaning on the everlasting arms.
Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms;
Leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms."

4th As Christians we are unique among the people of the earth. v. 29

"Happy are you, O Israel! Who is like you, a people saved by the LORD, the shield of your help and the sword of your majesty! Your enemies shall submit to you, and you shall tread down their high places."

1 Peter 2:9-10 *"But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; who were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy."*

In His Love,
Joel