

## **Psalms - A Summer Sermon Series / Psalms 46 / Pt 4**

"Mighty Fortress, Mighty God" | July 6th, 2025

### **Preview:**

The sermon explored the powerful message of Psalm 46, reminding us that God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in times of trouble. We saw how this psalm, possibly written by King Hezekiah after God's deliverance from the Assyrians, teaches us to turn to God in our darkest moments. Bro. Tony wanted to emphasize that while being a Christian doesn't shield us from hardships, it assures us of God's constant presence and support through all of life's challenges.

### **Sermon Outline:**

#### **I. His Help Leads Us to His Haven (v. 1-3)**

- Definition of haven and refuge
- Connection to Matthew 16:18
- Running to Jesus is not cowardly
- God's purpose in refining and strengthening us
  
- Promises for those who take refuge in God:
  - a) Will not be condemned (Psalm 34:22)
  - b) God is a shield (2 Samuel 22:31)
  - c) Are blessed (Psalm 2:12)
  - d) Are known by God (Nahum 1:7)

#### **II. His Company Provides Consolation (v. 4-7)**

- God's presence better than earthly offerings
- Consolation after loss or disappointment
- Marshall Segal quote = "The faithfulness of God often feels the sweetest when he fills a hole left by some loss."
- Jim Elliot story of martyrdom and Elisabeth Elliot's perspective
- Psalm 16:11 reference

#### **III. His Status Enables Stillness (v. 8-10)**

- Reminder to be still and know God
- Our tendency to control vs. God's sovereignty
- Emphasis on verses 10 & 11
- God's authority over earthly rulers
  
- Conclusion
  - Significance of rivers in Scripture = Genesis 2:10-14 reference
  - Rivers as symbol of God's presence
  - God is our refuge, strength, and peace

**Key Takeaways:**

- I.** God is our ultimate refuge and strength, especially in times of trouble.
- II.** Taking refuge in God doesn't mean avoiding hardship, but finding help and safety in Him through difficulties.
- III.** God's presence provides consolation and comfort, particularly in times of loss or disappointment.
- IV.** Recognizing God's sovereignty enables us to be still and trust Him, even in chaotic circumstances.

**Practical Applications:**

- 1.** Daily Practice: Set aside 5-10 minutes each day this week to "be still" before God. Use this time to reflect on His character and promises from Psalm 46.
- 2.** Memorization: Choose one verse from Psalm 46 to memorize and meditate on throughout the week.
- 3.** Journaling: Write down specific areas where you need God's refuge and strength. Pray over these areas and note how God works in them over time.
- 4.** Accountability: Share one area where you're struggling to trust God fully with someone close to you.
- 5.** Worship Response: Listen to or sing the hymn "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" as a way to reinforce the truths from this Psalm.

**Pray this Prayer:**

Thank you God for being a mighty fortress. Father, I pray and ask for your help to consistently take refuge in You and You alone. Lord, I admit I am weak and easily tempted to run and hide by myself. I thank you, Lord that you are faithful to uphold your promise to give me strength, comfort, and peace as a result of taking refuge in You. In Jesus name I pray. Amen.