

He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. Psalm 91:1 (KJV)

## Thought for today...

Where do you live? When asked that question, we will likely respond with the name of the street, town, city or country in which we reside. We may also choose to mention the type of dwelling that we live in — perhaps a house or an apartment.

At times, we may choose a location at which to take a vacation, be it a resort, hotel, holiday home or perhaps staying with family or friends. When the time comes to end our vacation, we will likely return to the place where we reside — the place where the majority of our time is spent — the place where we dwell.



One dictionary defines the word 'dwell' as a place that we inhabit and spend most of our life in; a place in which we stay and remain for an extended period of time.

There are those who would prefer not to dwell, stay or remain, but would rather return home just long enough to pack for another vacation. Whilst in the physical realm this scenario may be considered a great opportunity to experience different locations, it perhaps describes the approach that some of us take concerning our spiritual lives too.

Psalm 91:1 tells us that "He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty." (NKJV).

The writer of this Psalm is clear that in order for us to abide under the shadow of the Almighty, we must dwell (the New Living Translation substitutes the word 'dwell' for 'live'), stay, remain, inhabit, spend most of our life, in the secret place of the Most High.

When vacationing in other countries, I am keen to visit top rated tourist attractions — destinations one might include on a bucket list — marking each visit off as an accomplishment. Are there times when we adopt the same approach with our spiritual lives, choosing to visit rather than dwell in the secret place of the Most High, marking off our sojourn in God's presence as an accomplishment? Are there times when we spend time in God's presence as we would a stopover — a place simply to refuel or offload, whilst on our way to the main attraction?

God is eager for us to seek Him in the secret place, and to take pleasure in being in His presence. Whether we choose to praise, worship, give thanks, speak to Him or listen, it is there — in His presence — that we find safety. Psalm 31:20 says of the Lord: 'You shall hide them in the secret place of Your presence from the plots of man; You shall keep them secretly in a pavilion from the strife of



tongues.' (NKJV). In the secret place of God's presence, we also find joy: 'You will show me the path of life; in Your presence is fullness of joy; at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.' Psalm 16:11 (NKJV).

When next asked "Where do you live?", I trust I'll be able to truthfully reply: "In the secret place of the Most High."