

---

# No Fear, Part III (Faith for What You Fear the Most)

---

## The Secret Place of Holiness

Pastor Wil Nichols

May 10, 2020

**Victorious Praise Fellowship Church of God in Christ**

2116 Page Rd. Durham NC 27703

WEBSITE: [www.VictoriousPraise.org](http://www.VictoriousPraise.org)

EMAIL: [PastorWil@VictoriousPraise.org](mailto:PastorWil@VictoriousPraise.org), [Info@VictoriousPraise.org](mailto:Info@VictoriousPraise.org)

PHONE: (919) 957-7500

***Sermon: The Secret Place of Holiness: No Fear, Part III (Faith for What You Fear the Most)***

***New Series Messages: “The Secret Place of Holiness”***

- Theme Scriptures: Psalm 91:1-16
- Sermon: Shelter in “The Secret” Place (Shadow, Refuge, Fortress)
- Sermon: Covered by His Blood (Safe in His Arms)
- Sermon: No Fear, Part I (Faith That Has Said Its Prayers: No fear of the Night or Fight)
- Sermon: No Fear, Part II (Faith That Has Said Its Prayers Even More)
  - No Fear of The Pestilence in Darkness (Xenophobia: Fear of the Unknown)
  - No Fear of The Destruction at Noonday (Apollymophobia: Fear of Doomsday)

***Lesson Text***

Psalm 91:1–8 (AV)<sup>1</sup> He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. <sup>2</sup> I will say of the LORD, *He is* my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust. <sup>3</sup> Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, *and* from the noisome pestilence. <sup>4</sup> He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth *shall be thy* shield and buckler. <sup>5</sup> Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; *nor* for the arrow *that* flieth by day; <sup>6</sup> *Nor* for the pestilence *that* walketh in darkness; *nor* for the destruction *that* wasteth at noonday. <sup>7</sup> ***A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee.*** <sup>8</sup> ***Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked.***

Job 3:25–26 (AV)<sup>25</sup> For the thing which I greatly feared is come upon me, and that which I was afraid of is come unto me. <sup>26</sup> I was not in safety, neither had I rest, neither was I quiet; yet trouble came.

***Introduction***

For the last two weeks we have looked at four phobias (debilitating anxiety and irrational fear):

Psalm 91: <sup>5</sup> Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day; <sup>6</sup> Nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday.

- Terror by night (Nyctophobia: The Fear of Night or Darkness)
- Arrows by day (Anthrophobia: The Fear of Confrontation, Conflict, or Fighting)
- Pestilence in darkness (Xenophobia: The Fear of the Unknown or Hidden)
- Destruction at noonday (Apollymophobia: The Fear of Destruction, Apocalypse or Doomsday)

Today we want to look at the culmination of these fears in which God provides comfort!

Psalm 91: <sup>7</sup> ***A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee.***

What is the one thing that you fear the most? The one thing you never want to experience! Failure, Humiliation, Betrayal, Hurt, Loss of a Loved One, ...!

Job 3: <sup>25</sup> For the thing which I greatly feared is come upon me, and that which I was afraid of is come unto me.

Job 3:25–26 (NLT)<sup>25</sup> What I always feared has happened to me. What I dreaded has come true. <sup>26</sup> I have no peace, no quietness. I have no rest; only trouble comes.”

Whenever the thing you fear the most comes upon you, for you it becomes a Calamity; that is a disaster, a catastrophe, a tragedy of epic proportions. And you feel like you can't go on!

What do you do when the thing you fear the most comes knocking at your door?

You must have a faith that has said its prayers and remember our lesson text: **“A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee.”**

***Series and Sermon: The Secret Place of Holiness: No Fear, Part III (Faith for What You Fear the Most)***

***“No Fear of Individual Calamity, No Fear of Mass Calamity, No Fear of Near Calamity”***

### ***I. No Fear of Individual Calamity***

Psalms 91: <sup>7</sup> **A thousand shall fall at thy side,** and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee.

After 22 years of pastoring, if there's one thing that I've noticed, it is our tendency to deal with our individual calamities privately. We tend to keep our personal blows, disasters, catastrophes, misfortunes, and tragedies personal and private.

I don't know if it's the syndrome of “What Happens in Vegas, Stays in Vegas”, or “Family Business Stays in the Family”, or “Snitches Gets Stitches”.

I suspect it is both a combination of these as well as the fear of being burned by people in the past who have put our business out in the streets.

So how do we overcome the secrete, private, individual fear of calamity. We Expose It!

First of all, let me digress to those who are concerned about what other people think when you have a failure. There are two type of people in your life: those that matter, and those that don't matter.

The people that are going to talk about you, ridicule you, mock, scorn, and laugh at you; they don't matter. And those that do matter, they are always going to love you, hold you, pray for you, and help you no matter what happens!

And so your job for your individual calamities is to have a prayer that gets help!

**Faith that has said its prayers always gets help (The Power of Agreement):**

James 5:<sup>16</sup> Confess *your* faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

Matthew 18:<sup>19</sup> Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven. <sup>20</sup> For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.

Matthew 18:<sup>18</sup> Verily I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

## ***II. No Fear of Mass Calamity***

Psalms 91: <sup>7</sup> A thousand shall fall at thy side, **and ten thousand at thy right hand;** but it shall not come nigh thee.

We all have heard the phrase “Misery loves company”, I call it the “Me Too” Syndrome. It is the perverse comfort some people get when they are in misery to seek out others who are in misery! “Me Too”!

But I don’t need you to comfort me in my misery, I need you to help me get out of it!

However, what do you do when “Me Too” becomes “All of us Too”?

You see, we all need the help of others:

- Ecclesiastes 4:9–10 (AV)<sup>9</sup> Two *are* better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. <sup>10</sup> For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: ...
- Romans 15:1 (AV)<sup>1</sup> We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves.

But what do you do when there are no others to help? Both of you have fallen, when everyone around is weak, when as far as you can see, ten thousand have fallen all around you?

You have to have a prayer that already has help!

### **Faith that has said its prayers always has help (The Power of Seeking):**

People are here to help you, but sometimes they fail. Pastors and leaders are here to help, but sometimes they fail. Family, Friends, and Loved Ones are here to help, but sometimes they fail! But there is one that will never leave you nor forsake you; one that will never fail!

Hebrews 13:<sup>5</sup> *Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.*

Psalms 121:<sup>1</sup> I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. <sup>2</sup> My help *cometh* from the LORD, which made heaven and earth.

Matthew 7:<sup>7</sup> Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you:

“God never fails, God never fails. He abides with me, He Gives me victory, For God never fails. Oh, just keep the faith and never cease to pray, Just walk upright, call Him noon, day, or night. He'll be there, He'll be there. There's no need to worry for God never fails”

### ***III. No Fear of Near Calamity***

Psalm 91: <sup>7</sup> A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; **but it shall not come nigh thee.**

Whether we are dealing with Individual Calamities or Mass Calamities; Individual Disasters, Catastrophes, or Tragedies or Mass Disasters, Catastrophes or Tragedies; the fact that you are still here tell us that they got near us, but they didn't destroy us. They got close to us, but they didn't kill us.

“Close, but No Cigar!”

The expression or idiom “Close, but No Cigar” started in the US in the twentieth century, originating from the practice of fairground stalls giving out **cigars** as prizes for games won. And so, if you go close but did not win the game, “Close but No Cigar”

Well God told us to tell the Devil “Close, but No Cigar”

He came at us with individual and personal struggle, tragedies, and disasters; but we're still here: “Close, but No Cigar”

The whole family was attacked, the job was attacked, the finances were attacked: “Close, but No Cigar”

I almost quit, I almost gave up, I almost threw in the towel: “Close, but No Cigar”

Genesis 50:20 (AV)<sup>20</sup> But as for you, ye thought evil against me; *but* God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as *it is* this day, to save much people alive. “Close, but No Cigar”

Psalm 91: <sup>7</sup> A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; **but it shall not come nigh thee.** “Close, but No Cigar”

### **Faith that has said its prayers always has a reward (The Power of God's Reward):**

Hebrews 11:6 (AV)<sup>6</sup> But without faith *it is* impossible to please *him*: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and **that he is a rewarder** of them that diligently seek him.

Why did God allow it to get near me, so I could see the results of God's Plan.

Psalm 91: <sup>8</sup> Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the **reward of the wicked.**

Proverbs 13:22 (AV)<sup>22</sup> A good *man* leaveth an inheritance to his children's children: and the wealth of the sinner *is* laid up for the just.

**Midweek Study Lesson Plan (Sermon: No Fear, Part III (Faith for What You Fear the Most))**

**Lesson Text**

- Psalm 91:1–7, Job 3:25–26

**Sermon Outline (Notes)**

**I. *No Fear Individual Calamity***

---

---

**II. *No Fear of Mass Calamity***

---

---

**III. *No Fear of Near Calamity***

---

---

**Questions**

**I. Getting to Know “Me”**

1. What has been your greatest fear since being an adult?
2. If given the opportunity to be granted one thing that could come true, what would that one thing be?

**II. Into the Bible**

1. Study 1 Thessalonians 5:5-11. Answer the following: (a) In verse 6, what does it mean to watch? (b) What does it mean to be sober? (c) How is being watchful and sober different from being fearful?
2. How do the elements of our Christian wardrobe named in 1 Thessalonians 5:8 keep us from fear of surprise calamity? How do these other scriptures support this idea: Isaiah 59:17, Ephesians 6:14, 17 and 1 Peter 5:8?

**III. Life Application**

1. Have you noticed the significance of the power of agreement since you have been in your growth group? What impact has it had on you? In what ways would you share this to others?
2. What would you say when witnessing to an unsaved person who is uncertain about life because of these unprecedented times we are living in?