

Living in God's Compound

by Otto Koning

God's protection is a hedge that surrounds us, made up of four key relationships, and we must establish and maintain it to trust in His goodness and provision.

Duration: 36:10

Scripture: Job 1:8, Job 2:3, Job 2:10, Job 19:25, Psalm 91:5-6, Psalm 91:9, Psalm 91:11, Psalm 91:14-16

Topics: "Testimony"

Description

In this sermon, the speaker shares a personal testimony of how God transformed his family's life. He talks about how his son repented and became a soul winner after attending a life action camp. The speaker also mentions how his daughters' attitude towards food changed, and they started appreciating healthy eating. Additionally, he shares a harrowing experience where a ball of fire narrowly missed his son and daughters in the basement of their home. Through these experiences, the speaker emphasizes the importance of having the right relationships with oneself, others, God, and Satan, as demonstrated by Job in the Bible.

Transcript

Have you ever noticed that many of the greatest lessons that we have to learn are learned in difficult circumstances? That's when we seem to learn best. And we had one of these situations when we came back from the mission field, my wife Carol was sick and she had this liver problem, hepatitis, and she was really ill for a year on the field, and we had to bring her home, and that was one of these situations. We were herding in several areas, as a missionary coming home, we had only our suitcases, can you imagine? We had four growing children, getting, starting into their teenage, and no winter clothes, and no car, and no home, and just came home, and our home church in Canada said, don't come here, you'll never make it, the economy's so bad.

Carol's home church had folded, her folks had moved to Florida, we didn't really know where to go, we ended up in Mansfield, Ohio, and there this church took us in, and they carried in the furniture, they were so good to us, we didn't, we weren't even members there, they hadn't even supported us, but that's where we went. And, but the furniture wasn't all that good, you know what I mean? It was leftover furniture, and my son had the habit of pushing, you know, tipping his chair back, and these chairs would come loose, and it was real missionary stuff, you know what I mean? And the house we were in, oh brother, it hadn't been used, and it had those old window frames, you know, where they had the weights in the windows

with cords? Well, the kids got in all the bedrooms, and those windows would break and fall, they were all ready to snap about the time that we got in that house, and screen doors were falling out, it was a real missionary house. I mean, yeah, I really believe that you don't want to, they're trying to make, you don't want a missionary feel too good, you know, you make them want to go back to the field, and that house was one of those.

And then a missionary went to the field, and he said, Otto, would you buy my car? I need 600 more dollars to, for my passage, and his car wasn't worth 600, but I gave him, that's the worst buy I ever had. I gave him 600 dollars so he could go to the field, and what a bomb that was, an old Chevy station wagon, and I'm puttering around trying to get to meetings and that thing, and you know, you've heard my stories about the cars, how this was a great money raiser, I'd leave it running in front of the door of the church, and you know, until people heard the thing, and have the pastor drive it sometime, and when he couldn't make it go well, he would say, you know, we need to do some, well, they'd fix it up for me. But my wife needed the old car at home when I was on my missionary meetings, and so a man gave me another, he says, I've got an old car, so I had two of them now.

I had one on the road and one at home, but I'd switch them, whichever one needed help the most, I'd drive that to the churches, because obviously we didn't have any money to fix the car ourself. We had to buy clothing, there were so many things, we had nothing, and so we were really hurting in a material way, cars, house, furniture, whatever. My wife was sick with that liver problem, and that bed came down, it was an old missionary bed too, and it fell down and jarred her, and it was terrible.

Anyway, not only were we hurting in material possessions, that was the first area, but the second area was in family. We had our children in a Christian school, and we thought it was too big to go right into a public school situation, and my son got in with the wrong crowd, my oldest, and he was kicked out of school for smoking marijuana, and oh, what a mess, and several others, there was a bunch of them got dismissed from school, and I was so grieved, and then my daughters got, you know, they were in cheerleading, and so on, and they got independent, and they complained about the food, you know, they'd rather go to McDonald's, and we served the best we could, it wasn't all that good.

But anyway, I had family problems in my home, and then of course the health problems, the third area, my nerves were bad again, you could see that, because every time you come home from meetings, there's stuff broken, and you don't know what to do, you don't rest at home, because you've got all this stuff to fix, and I'm not a good mechanic, so I wired a car together, wire and glue, I can do that, but not much of a mechanic, and so health problem, my wife's sick, and so on, and so I would go on meetings, and the meetings were victorious Christian meetings, you know, victorious living, and that was every, you know, it was all right on the road, but at home, it wasn't all that victorious, and so it was kind of, it bothered me some, but the meetings were going good, and I needed to keep

preaching to get some money to, because I had no trade, or I didn't know what else to do, and so I make the meetings longer and longer, because I kind of hate it to be home, it's such a mess at home, you know, I mean, the kids are gone, and the wife is sick, and everything's broken down, and boy, so, but that's no good, you can't run away from your problems, I have to come home sometime, but I could hardly pray at home, because I'm, everything is falling apart around you, how can you keep your mind on your prayers, you know, you say, well, I got to do this, got to do that, and so I would go to the park, and I would jog around the park there, and then I'd sit on the park bench, it was early spring, and I'd pray there, and I'd say, God, and you know, when I was, I was reading Job, reading

about Job, and what I saw there just amazed me, Job had the same three problems as I had, no, I shouldn't say it that way, I had the same three problems that Job had, he was hurting in possessions, remember, he lost all his cattle, and all his children, and then he was hurting in family, he lost his children, and his wife lost her faith, remember that, and so his family was hurting bad, and then he was hurting in health, remember that, he had these boils, and I'm sitting there, and I'm amazed, saying, man, I got something in common with Job, so I start studying that, and I start, and I start seeing that Job was a tremendous target for Satan, I don't think Satan liked Job at all, I had a feeling he didn't like me at all, and that's a good thing, you know, I really believe, we prayed so

hard that Carol would get well, so we could stay on the mission field, things were so good, a revival, the tribes people were coming to the Lord, and we didn't want to go home at this time, and God wanted me home, he wanted me to, he put a message on my heart for the home churches, and I was sharing all the stuff that I'd learned, but I saw Job as a tremendous target, you know, he's rich, it said he was the greatest of all the men of the east, in other words, when it mentioned he had thousands of goats, and asses, and camels, and sheep, and all this, and he was, and it said in that context, he was the greatest, he was the wealthiest man of all the people, and then also, we saw that God talked about Job very highly, because he was perfect before God, and he was a wonderful Christian, now

here is a terrific combination, a wealthy man, that's a tremendous Christian, now he becomes a target of Satan, because if Satan knocks off a wealthy man, everybody will hear about it, and talk about it, and know about it, and that's why we have to pray for our leaders, and because they, the biggest guys, and that's why some of these great leaders fall, because Satan is on them, if he can destroy them, he makes them a laughing stock, and that's all over the newspapers, and so Job is a tremendous target of Satan, and I can just imagine Satan going around Job's farm, and you know, and watching all that's going on, and he sees his ten children, and he sees all his flocks, and all his servants, he was very great, he had many, and can you imagine Job, or Satan saying, well I wish I could get

at him, he's my target, he's one guy I want to bring low, bring down, but man, he's going around this farm, he can't get at him, there's somehow Satan couldn't touch Job.

Now, that reminded me of, and it's because Job had a hedge around him, didn't he? And it protected everything he had, everything under Job's authority was blessed. It'd been a blessing to be a servant of Job, and work for him, wouldn't it? To be a child of Job, because you know, it's explained there in Matthew 12, 29, that the thief cannot spoil the goods of the strong man. He can't touch anything under his jurisdiction, because as long as that strong man is right there, man, it's all safe.

And that is in the context of Satan tempting people, and so on, and destroying people. And so, everything under his authority is blessed, and that's the way it is in any authority structure, in any chain of command situation. The teacher over a classroom, if that teacher has that hedge, you know, then everybody is blessed.

The boss over the servants, and the employee over the employees, the head of an organization over the organization, and the father over his home, and so on, wherever you have that. And I've learned that Satan respects that authority structure, just like God does. He recognizes that he can't get through, well, and that's the way he was.

Now, on the mission field, we had a chicken pen, and we had these nice fat hens that we were using, getting eggs from, and so on. And those hungry, starving, mangy dogs of the natives, always starving,

would be yelping around that chicken pen, just yelping around. They're trying, I had to do everything I could to keep them out.

They'd come up over the top of the wire, they'd dig underneath. I mean, but, you know, that those yelping, that reminded, that's like Satan going around Job's farm. Man, I wish I'd get hold of one of these hens, you know what I mean, or one of these goats, anything.

But, you know, it's fascinating how that, until the showdown came in heaven, when Satan actually came to talk to God about Job, up till that time, Satan could not touch Job. And that, to me, is a very comforting situation. I really believe that that is the reason for the book of Job, so that we would all, it would be recorded for all history, that Satan cannot touch us, as long as that heads of God is around us.

Do you believe that? It is absolutely true. And so, when Satan finally went up to heaven, and that showdown came, God initiates it. Now, listen, God initiated this, and he said, Satan, while you were down there, have you seen my servant Job? Now, that's like rubbing salt into Satan's wounds.

I mean, he'd been trying to get him so bad, and now, yes, I've seen him, but haven't you put a hedge around him, and so on, you see. Oh, yes, Satan would love to get him, and God knew that, but Job was so protected. And then Satan says, yeah, but haven't you put a hedge around all that he has? And God didn't say, no, no, I didn't.

No, God, you know, but we know God does put a hedge around him, because of other scriptures. When we compare other scriptures, we know that, like in Hosea, the hedge around the wife of Hosea brought her back, the hedge in Isaiah 5 around the vineyard, which was Israel, and so on. God does protect, and really, the hedge is a symbol of his protection.

It's like the angels hovering around us, or the wall of fire in Zechariah, where God put a fire around his people. He holds us in the hollow of his hands. These are all symbols of God's protection around his people.

God doesn't deny it. Satan challenges God, take that hedge down, he'll curse you to your face. And God says, no, he won't.

And Satan says, yes, he will. And finally, Satan pushes God to the place where he says, all right, I'll prove it to you. You can touch everything he has, but don't touch the man.

Now, can you imagine Satan's light? Now he's got permission. And that shows us something. Satan cannot touch us without God's permission.

Now, I meet people everywhere that say, well, I hope God never does to me what he did to Job. Hey, God didn't do it to Job. Satan did it to Job.

All God did was lift the hedge, and Satan could get in. Now, when that hedge is lifted, folks, Satan will take as much as he can. He's out to destroy Job.

He's out to destroy anything that's worthwhile and good and right. And he'll destroy us. And so, now, the hedge is lifted to the extent, or maybe brought down, and Satan gets in over the top, whatever way you want to visualize it.

But let's say he lifts a hedge, and Satan can get under it, and he can touch all that Job has. And you know the story how he lost all his cattle. One day, he was the richest man of all the people of the East.

And the next day, he has absolutely nothing. And the dumb guy had no insurance whatsoever, so he lost it all. All right.

Now, and he lost all his children, didn't he? All his children died. I wonder if he wished he'd lost his wife, too. She was no comfort to him after she said, why don't you curse God and die? Might have been better if she'd died along with the kids.

But then, you can't be too hard on Job's wife. What woman has buried 10 kids in one day and stayed sane? I mean, and all her security and all the possessions, and she's the poorest lady in the whole county now, and she was the richest, and I mean, so don't judge Job's wife too hard. All right.

But anyway, he lost. The interesting thing was that Job still had his health after that first time. Satan couldn't go further than God allowed him.

I like that. So God may want to bring you back to the straight and narrow way, or me back to the straight, and we might be hurting, but he won't touch us any further than he has to, okay? And Satan can't. So we don't need to fear Satan.

We're in God's hands. Make sure we're staying there. Make sure we have that hedge.

All right, so the second time, where it was the next day, we don't know, Satan appears before God again, and God initiates it again. Says, have you seen my servant Job? That he's the greatest of all the people of the earth, because he's perfect and upright and all these wonderful qualities Job had. And now God is referring to his spirituality, that he's the greatest.

He is no--what God says, and he says this three times, once in verse 1, and once in verse 8, and then in chapter 2, verse 3. Three times God literally brags on a man that he's a spiritual man, that he loves him, and perfect, and he's got to be the greatest Christian that ever lived, I would think, or tied for the greatest Christian that ever lived. Certainly didn't deserve all this problems that came upon him, but God--this was--God did this to show us something, and he wanted us to get this lesson. So the second time, Satan says, yeah, but you've still got a hedge.

Touch his bone and his flesh, and he'll curse you to your face. And God says, all right, you can touch the man, touch his health, but you can't kill him. Now, what we see in this incident now is that the hedge is lifted a little bit more.

Satan can get at a little bit more of the man, but he still can't kill him. Satan knows that Job isn't going to die. God knows that he isn't going to die, but Job sure thinks he's going to die, and his miserable friends sure think he's going to die, and his wife says, curse God and die, and everybody thinks, but Satan knows it, because Satan knows he's--Satan--there's a limit to what Satan can do, because God is still over all.

And so now you see Job on that trash heap outside his farm, scratching his boils with the broken pottery, miserable, and then you have all these miserable chapters in between, you know, about 38 of them describing, and his wife says, curse God and die, and Job, what a man! I know that my Redeemer lives. Wow, what a statement! Though he slay me, yet will I trust him. Shall we receive good from the Lord and not evil? What answers this man has, what faith he has in this wretched situation in which he is, dying man

in that situation.

But you know, as I saw this thing, and I'm sitting there hurting in the park because of my own problems, and they weren't nearly what Job's were, yet I thought, how did that hedge come about, and how did he get that hedge? And then I saw it, and it's in these three--he was perfect, and that's pure and holy living. He has a right relationship with himself, his conscience, clear conscience, and so on. Then he's upright, just, honest, right motives, and that's his relationship with other people.

He's got that right. He has a fear of God, that's an awe of God, a respect of God, which is right relationship with God. And then the fourth one, he has a right relationship with Satan.

He hates him, he assumes evil, hates sin in himself and his wife and in everybody else. So he has got the four relationships with himself, with other people, with God and Satan, all correct. That is the essence of all obedience, when you get those four right, that's total obedience.

And that's really what Job was. And when Job was obedient like that, God says, you know, have you seen him? Have you seen him? Three times he says it. And because of that, God's blessing was on this man, and the hedge was there.

God didn't have to touch him anywhere because he was obedient. And so there was blessing, and so everything under him was blessed. Now, when I saw that, folks, I got so convicted, because I said, now, if that is what made up the hedge, then no wonder I'm shot down.

And I reviewed these four things in my own life, perfect, pure, holy living, and I said, oh, I can do a whole lot better there, upright and just and honest and emotive. And I think of my old cars and my money-raising schemes, and I thought, oh, brother, no wonder. And then the fear of God, the awe and respect of God.

And sometimes I don't pray, and I don't fear Him the way I should, and then hate sin. If I hated sin, eschewed evil, would I do sin? Would I, you know, I'd avoid it more, wouldn't I? And so I was shot down, and I repented my life, sitting in the park weeping and saying, oh, God, I have no hedge. There's no protection around my wife and children and everything I have.

Everything is bad, and I realize now it's not because... You know, I used to say, God, why? I've been a missionary. I've been faithful on the mission field. You know, is this the reward? I mean, you know, have you forgotten what I've done for you? Well, that's, you know, God doesn't fall for that kind of thing.

And now I'm seeing what God thinks of me. And I said, God, I understand this. Friends, I repent, and I'm weeping in the park every morning.

And now I start working on this. What else could I do? I'm working on these four things. And I wish I could tell you that as soon as I start working on them, everything went great.

No, it wasn't. It was so slow that I actually forgot, so slow but gradual. But by the fall of that year, my son, my oldest son had so... He went to life action camp, and God got through to him, and he so repented and wept before his bank forgiveness, and he started to become a soul winner.

God changed that young man, and today he's a in Japan. My daughters, who didn't like the food, they actually said to me, one of my daughters says, this food is good for us. I could not... I nearly dropped my spoon.

I couldn't believe what... I said, what else? He said, you know, I'm a cheerleader, and these are healthy foods that we're supposed to eat. And the attitude of my kids changed. And then we got a much better car.

Oh, we got rid of the bombs then, and that's when those cars started arriving. God is not hard up for cars. He can supply them anytime he wants to.

And we saw that, and then we got into this better house, and it didn't have those old cords in the windows, and it didn't... It was a rented house, but it was sure nice. And so, gradually things changed, and what a blessing that was. And then we moved to Ypsilanti, Michigan.

That's where that better house was. It was near Detroit. We lived on Michigan Avenue, a large road.

Behind us was a small woods, and beyond that woods, there was a subdivision of a poor, a bad area. It was a drug area. It was lots of debauchery and sin there, and, you know, people living, and always police going in there, so on.

And now that... And then one day, I was standing on the steps with my youngest son, Charles, and we were fixing something. It was the basement steps going down into the family room, into the basement of this house, and lightning hit the transformer in the woods between us and that subdivision. And guess which way the fireball of white light went? It should have gone to those wicked people out there, right? You know where it came to? The preacher's house.

I couldn't understand it. That... It was a ball of flame fire came along that wire from the woods, blew my electric meter right off the wall. It was hanging by one wire, big black spot on the brick wall.

It fried the breaker box inside. We opened that. I just... I mean, everything that... That charge went all through the house, blew out every light bulb.

It blew out everything that was plugged in. My water heater was gone. The recorders were... Everything fried.

I mean, it was unbelievable. And, oh, well, I didn't know that, but we were shocked, my son and I, and I walked up the steps to the meter to see what damage had been done. And guess what? That thing hit that transformer.

It wasn't raining yet. Hit the thing again, and my son shouted, Dad, look out! And the fire came along there again, and I thought, this is the wrong place to be. I turned around to run, and the blast of that thing, like a giant hand, shoved me into the backyard down the slope, and I never moved.

I just blasted out of there, but I wasn't hurt. I stayed on my feet somehow, and my son was crying. Now, the moment he saw his dad, now his dad's gone.

The blast came. I mean, he was crying, and I came back up, just my heart pounding. I said, Charles, am I all right? Are you all right? He said, Dad, the fire came.

He says, the fire, like a... Oh, bigger than a basketball, came right by my feet. He says, Dad, it went right into the basement. You know who was in the basement? My two daughters were sitting on the couch in the family room, studying.

And they said they were scared and shocked, and the fire went right in front of their feet, and it grounded out on metal lamps in the corner of the basement. Oh, man, we were shook up bad, twice in a row. Friends, you know what I did? I got on my knees.

I went to my bedroom. I said, God, I want to talk to you. You sent the ball of fire the wrong way, and you did it twice.

They were the ones that needed it. Ay, ay, ay. And he seemed to say, no, I sent it the right way.

I said, God, I don't know what you're saying. What are you saying to me? And I said, God, I lost everything. I can't afford to lose everything.

And finally, as I'm praying, God got through to me, and it was on this thing. And I had strayed. Do you ever stray off the path? I had strayed again.

You know what God does? He tries to bring it. He loves us so much. He brings us back.

And so he's touching me, right? He's nudging me, right? And he sensed the lightning. Man, it was really vivid. And I get back, and I see what I'd done.

I'd lit up on one of these four areas. I'm not going to tell you which one it was. It's none of your business.

But I lit up, and I say, oh, God, the hedge is gone. The hedge is--why? Because I've wandered--when you wander out from the hedge, like a prodigal son, when you--hey, you're hurting, because Satan will-- when you're vulnerable, Satan will want to destroy you. And so that's what happened to me.

And as I said, God, I thank you, took all my stuff. And all of a sudden, I saw something that I'm so anxious to share with people now, is God touched my material things. Area A, and Job, remember, was possessions.

Lost that first. Area B was what? Family. Lost that.

Area C was health. And God touched my Area A to bring me back to himself. It was vivid.

And all of a sudden, I said, God, I'm so glad you touched my things. I'd rather have him take my car than my child. What would you say? I'd rather have him take my house than my health.

I'd rather--and I said, God, you can take--please always use that to bring me back. And then I thought of how I was shoved into the backyard, and my health is intact. And I said, God, you saved my health.

And then I thought of my family. The fire went by their feet, and all three kids are okay. And I said, God, you didn't touch my--I've got my health, and I got my family, and I lost a bunch of electrical stuff, which has all been replaced.

Okay? And I thanked him, and I said, God, whenever I stray, and I'm so apt to stray, will you always touch my possessions? And I'll get the point. I'll get on my knees, say, God, what are you trying to say? Because I thought he'd send that fire the other way, but he didn't send it my way. And friends, I got right with God once again, and I just praised the Lord.

And you know, as I thought about these things, God loves us so much. He would rather touch my possessions than my--isn't that the way we are as parents? We would rather spank the child, the discipline

him just a little bit, if he will turn around and go right with just a little nudging. How much rather we do that than have to really come down hard on him? And God loves us, his children, more than we love our children.

And so, God would rather just nudge us a little bit with things that don't--hey, all the material things are going to burn up and be all gone in time anyway. They wear out and burn up, and so on anyway. So, if God gets--and so, God would rather touch us a little bit to bring you back.

And you know, the whole concept of God the shepherd, the gentle shepherd, who goes after that lost sheep that strayed away from the fold, and in the middle of the night goes and picks that sheep up from among the thorns and carries it to his bosom, right? The gentleness, the tenderness of God bringing us--that's God. His great compassions fail not. And so, that's how I see God.

But if that sheep keeps wandering away, what does the shepherd do? He breaks a leg, right? Remember that sheep can't--he's got to lay down by the shepherd now until that wound is healed and the break is healed. And by that time, he knows the shepherd's voice, right? And by that time, he doesn't wander off. So, God says, if you don't learn the easy way, I'm going to have to break your leg, right? Touch your health or something.

But that's the way we see God. Now, in America, there's a thing happening which isn't happening in other countries of the world, and this is the problem--it's insurance. Now, we insure area A, right? You see the material things, the possessions.

We cannot insure area B, family, and C, health, okay? And the way we Christians have done this thing, we've followed the world in this thing. That's the way the world--well, the world doesn't have God. They better have all the insurance they can get, right? But we have God, but we followed along with that, and we've really said to God, God, I can't trust you with my possessions.

And that's not true at all. God's got a hedge. He can take care of everything we have.

And so, when we--what happens is when we insure area number one, A, possessions, God looks at us, and he wants to nudge us back to the straight and narrow way. He's got to touch B or C. See, if he says, well, I'll touch him in his possessions, and then God says, no, he's got that fully covered. If I touch that, he'll get it all replaced.

As a matter of fact, he'll pat himself on the back and saying, good stewardship, good thinking, you know? And he actually feels good that he's paid into insurance so long now he's getting something back. And he pats himself on the back and saying, good responsibility. And what he's going to do is he's going to get more insurance next time, and he'd be more independent, and he'd be more depending on man and less depending on me, and he'll go spiritually wrong way.

No, that's not what I want to do. I want to bring him back to myself, to dependence. And so, God is then almost forced to touch area B and C, and that's what we see today in the Christian church, families hurting and health.

You see so many health needs and family needs and so on. And now, health needs show up the most because everybody says, pray for our health. They don't want to say, hey, I have no food to put on the table tomorrow morning, because then we get judged by our Christian brothers and sisters.

Oh, that guy isn't working hard enough. He's lazy, or he's not spending right, or he's doing something wrong, and God's not meeting his needs. And so, we don't bring too many requests on material needs to the prayer meeting, neither do we family needs.

We don't hear many requests, pray for my marriage, my teenage rebellion in my house. We try to keep our Sunday smile on and make everything look good as if everything's victory. But friends, we're hurting in all three areas.

But now we see, with this insurance problem, we see that we're hurting more in the other two areas. And so, that we become very vulnerable in family and health when we insure number one. And really, what it's saying to God, if I could insure the other two areas, I'd do that too.

You see, and you wouldn't need God at all. You know, you don't say that, but that's what, that's the message God gets. Now, you can insure medical to pay the bills after you lose your health, after you get in the hospital, but that doesn't, you can't insure that you're going to stay healthy or that your family is going to turn out right.

And you see the tremendous problem this is today. And you see how vulnerable we get because we go along with the world in this area of insurance. And so, I call this message living in God's compound.

You know what, the compound is the old missionary compound. It's a negative connotation, but the missions used to get together, and then they had the kind of protection from whatever. And so, living in God's compound is the protected place in God's place.

Now, if we stay there, if we are going to live in God's compound and have that hedge, then we should avoid insurance altogether, or we should definitely cut down. That's a pretty strong statement. We should definitely cut down on it, avoid it if possible, because if you do that, friends, God is not going to be pleased at all, because even though you live in God's compound, yet you're going to stray, and God's going to touch something and bring you back because he loves you so much.

Now, I must say that in some states, we have to have liability insurance. And if the law says have it, you always obey your authorities. In some jobs, you have insurance.

Come along with it, receive it graciously, and thank God for it. But don't ever choose to get it. Don't choose to get it, because then you are not giving God an option, and you're going to get hurt.

And now, don't receive--check this out. Check this out. Find families that have very little health problems, very little family problems, and tactfully find out how much they carry on insurance.

They possibly don't have any. Check people that have a lot of family problems, and a lot of health problems, and ask them tactfully, how much insurance do you carry on area A on possessions? And you'll discover an amazing thing, that that is the way it goes. And so, I encourage you to check that out.

As a matter of trouble with this message, I would like you to memorize Psalm 91. He that dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High, that's in God's compound, shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. Now, what do you think that is? Abiding under the shadow of the Almighty.

I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress, my God in Him will I trust. A refuge in a time of storm, a fortress. What words? Surely He shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the

noisome pestilence.

He shall cover thee with His feathers, and under His wings shalt thou trust. His truth shall be thy shield and buckler. Can you see that in the context of Job's suffering? Thou shalt not be afraid.

He shall cover thee with His feathers. We had that. Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night, nor for the arrow that flies by day, nor for the pestilence that walks in darkness, nor for the destruction that wastes at noonday.

And then in verse 9, because thou hast made the Lord which is my refuge even the Most High thy habitation. That's where you dwell, in the secret place of the Most High, in God's compound. There shall no evil, there shall no evil befall thee.

Look at that. If that's where you live, no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling. No plagues.

And for He shall give His angels charge over thee. And that's the hedge, isn't it? To keep thee in all thy ways, they shall bear thee up in their hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone. And then verse 14, because He hath set His love upon me, therefore will I deliver Him.

I will set Him on high, and that's where Job was. I will set Him on high, because He hath known my name. He shall call upon me, and I will answer Him.

I will be with Him in trouble. I will deliver Him and honor Him with long life, will I satisfy Him and show Him my salvation. Memorize that, and then you'll see how we can live in God's compound, in His dwelling place.

Let us pray.

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