



Mary Craig Ministries, Inc.

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“Of Spiritual Bunkers and Strongholds”

The Living God is calling each of us to create a spiritual bunker. This creating process would be more like us putting things together in a new way. It is for the purpose that God’s people be protected from what is coming, and that they be able to defend themselves against the attacks of the enemy of men’s souls.

It is a blessing when God takes up our cause. *The LORD shall cause thine enemies that rise up against thee to be smitten before thy face: they shall come out against thee one way, and flee before thee seven ways...* It is a curse when He does not. *The LORD shall cause you to be defeated before your enemies; you will go out one way against them, but you will flee seven ways before them, and you will be an example of terror to all the kingdoms of the earth. Deuteronomy 28:7, 25*

Remember this? *“Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego replied to the king, “O Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to give you an answer concerning this matter. If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the furnace of blazing fire; and He will deliver us out of your hand, O king. “But even if He does not, let it be known to you, O king, that we are not going to serve your gods or worship the golden image that you have set up.”... Daniel 3:16-18.*

We could also add Psalm 46, Psalm 27, and Ephesians 6:10-17 among others.

The objective is to build a spiritual stronghold/fortification into which we may come. Hear Him say, And I will be their supply as Guardian of the Gates, El Shaddai. I will be with them to prevail. I will hide them. (Exodus 12; 1 Chronicles 26:13-19; Revelation 21:12; Psalm 121; Isaiah 62; Revelation 3:7-13; Isaiah 22:22; Proverbs 18:10; Psalm 32)

*“I will lift up my eyes to the hills—from whence comes my help? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth. He will not allow your foot to be moved; He who **keeps** [shomer] you will not slumber. Behold He who **keeps** [shomer] Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep. The Lord is your **keeper** [shomer]; the Lord is your shade at your right hand. The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night. The Lord **shall preserve** [yishmar] you from all evil; He **shall preserve** [yishmar] your soul. The Lord **shall preserve** [yishmar] your going out and your coming in from this time forth and even forevermore” (NKJV). Psalm 121*

I was thinking about bunkers, particularly military bunkers. Doing some online research, I realized that in their bunkers, people are sheltered; people keep food and water, have a system to take care of waste and trash, a way to stay clean and keep things orderly, and a place to sleep. There is an oxygen supply in order to breathe, light, a means of communication with the outside, medicines and first aid kits, maps, necessary weapons, a means to maintain mental and emotional health, and a plan to maintain peace and order within the bunker.

A bunker can be underground or camouflaged if above or partially above ground. The idea is to be hidden but keep a way to use defensive military action if required.

Think about a spiritual bunker and then think about who God is and what He can do.

1. Shelter. He is our shelter, our hiding place. (Psalm 32:7; Psalm 119:114) He hides us in the secret place of His presence. He provides protection, hovering over us, covering us. (Psalm 31:20; Psalm 61:4; Psalm 69:32; Psalm 17:8. He places us in the “shadow of Shaddai.” (Psalm 91:1) The true believer has died, crucified with Christ, and his/her life is hidden with Christ in God. (Gal. 2:20; Colossians 3:3)

We either hide IN Christ or hide FROM Christ. But in fact there is no place to hide FROM the presence of God (Psalm 139), so the only safe place is to live IN the Presence of God beginning now (Jude 24, 25). We cannot separate the place from the Person/Presence of God. God is our Refuge, our strong tower, a place providing shelter and protection from danger, difficulty, or distress. This is concealment for our good.

For in the day of trouble, he will conceal me in His tabernacle; in the secret place of His tent He will hide me; He will lift me up on a rock. Psalm 27:5

God places us in Him, in a place where we are inaccessible to His enemies. (Psalm 125:2) So let God build the walls of salvation strong and seat us in heavenly places in Christ.

2. Food – We know that man does not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God. God sustains every true believer. He delivers His own by giving life support to our human spirits. Spurgeon notes: “He shall give me the best of shelter in the worst of danger.” God sovereignly supplies and has infinite power, wisdom, and glory. Every true believer lives by the Word of Truth. John 1:1ff. We live by the Holy Spirit, who is the Life-Producer. John 6:63

3. Water – Jesus is Living Water. John 4; John 7. Again, He sustains us with the Water of Life. We experienced this during our mission to Ethiopia, where we had precious little to no water for days and the available water had sand in it. Nevertheless, I had received from the LORD that He would supply Living Water to sustain us, and He did.

The God of my rock; in Him will I trust; He is my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold, and my refuge, my savior; You save me from violence. 2 Samuel 22:3

4. Have a system to take care of waste and trash; a way to stay clean and keep things orderly – The true believer is cleansed by the Atoning Blood Sacrifice of Jesus Christ, who offered up Himself in our place and stead as an atonement for our sin, iniquity, transgressions, etc. We are cleansed by the words which Jesus speaks. John 15. We are sanctified by the Blood (atoning work) of Jesus Christ, by the Word of God, and by the Holy Spirit. God is a God of order and not confusion. In the time of chaos, He hovers and brings light into darkness. The light of the gospel of Jesus Christ shines into the darkness. God makes crooked places straight. He is holy

and so is separate from what is unclean, disorderly, chaotic, etc. Hide in His holiness and come out from the world. 1 John 1:9; Romans 12:1, 2, e.g.

5. Sleep -- God is our place of rest, a place of safety where we are secure enough to sleep. Psalm 3. There is a rest in Christ, rest from the turmoil and labor of sin/peace with God; rest from toil of the curse/peace of Christ; rest in salvation/peace in God through Christ.

6. Oxygen-a way to breathe. The Holy Spirit is the Life-Producer. He is our next breath. Our lives are in His hands. The Holy Spirit is the Breath of the Almighty. *“The Spirit of God has made me; the breath of the Almighty gives me life.” Job 33:4*

7. Light – God is light, living light. There is no darkness in Him. When the devil has had his day, Jesus Christ shows up, shines forth, shoots down His enemies, and strengthens our faith. 2 Thessalonians 2:1-12. To walk in the light is to walk in the paths of righteousness, to walk in the light of God’s Word, to walk in the Spirit. 1 John 1:5-7.

8. Means of communication – God communicates with every true believer through His Word and by His Spirit. Every true believer is to pray and can do so with confidence because of being ransomed and redeemed by the Blood of Christ. We can come boldly to the Throne of Grace to obtain mercy and to find grace and favor in a timely way. Hebrews 4:16. We can do this because Satan is a defeated foe, thanks to the destruction work of Christ on the Cross. Hebrews 2:14, 15. Jesus Christ has opened the way to the Father; we have access because of and in Him. Likewise, we have access to enemy plots, plans, and purposes. (e.g. 1 Peter)

The LORD also will be a refuge for the oppressed, a refuge in times of trouble. Psalm 9:9

9. Medicines and health – God is our Healer. Jesus Christ came to heal, save, and deliver those given to Him by His Father. Laughter does good like medicine. A joyful heart is a good medicine. See also Proverbs 3:8; Proverbs 4:22; Proverbs 16:24.

10. Weapons – When we are told to put on the whole armor of God (Ephesians 6:10-17), it is describing our putting on the Lord Jesus Christ. His faith is our shield. He is our Shield and Defender. God is our Shield and Exceeding Great Reward. The Sword of the Spirit is the Word of God. So we live in the armor and need a good translation Bible in our Bunker. The more we have put truth in the inward parts, down into the core of our being, the more we have in our arsenal, the more God creates a bunker internally as well as externally. Jesus Christ is the Truth. The Holy Spirit is the truth. The Word of God is truth. God is the One, true, and living God.

11. Maps – We need to know where we are and where we are going. God is our guide as we trust in the Lord with all our hearts and lean not to our own understanding. Rather, we are to acknowledge Him in all our ways and He will direct our paths. (Proverbs 3:5) Even if things blow up around us and we lose our compass, God is our Compass and He makes a straight path for our feet. Our perspective may be skewed because we are like the leaning tower of Pisa, but God is straight up and down and can make crooked places straight. Listen to Him and obey Him.

12. Mental health, maintaining sanity – Days of trouble come. It’s what many of us “pass through.” There are respites, of course, but during days of trouble we need to maintain sanity. God guards our hearts and our minds in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4; 2 Corinthians 4:18. With God as our Bunker, our Refuge and Shelter and Hiding Place, we can find sanctuary in Him, a place to meditate on Him and His wonderful works, a place to worship and to find how best to serve Him. God is our Defense.

Creating a spiritual bunker/fortification, putting things together in a new way, will take a plan to maintain peace and order. That involves the Word of God and personal relationship with the Father through the Son as enabled by the Holy Spirit. This is a matter of faith, believing what God says about who He is. What I believe I heard from the LORD recently:

These are dark days, growing darker. But even the darkness is light to Me for in Me there is neither shadow nor turning. I am the Light shining and though obscured, I am still shining. And I will cover you with My wings and hide you in the shadow of Shaddai.

Though you are weak, I am strong. I am the Strong One and I am marching with My armies toward My goal. I have before Me that for which the Father sends Me. I am set like flint.

Do not fret. Do not worry. I love you with an everlasting love. My love raises you from the ash heaps. My love carries you into the Holy of Holies. My love prevails. My love is a jealous love and I am jealous for My people. I fight for the lives of My children...

The devils cackle and their kings and princes conspire. Psalm 2. But I am laughing, roaring with laughter, in the heavens, for who is so glorious as I? Who is so mighty as I?

See My might. I am your Mighty Hero Who Saves and I will NOT lose one—NOT ONE of Mine.

And I am your Healer. I send you forth to proclaim My Victory over devils, disease, and death, over all My enemies. You will proclaim and you will bring victory to My people where I send you.

You will say:

The LORD, the LORD, has come to you and He will and does prevail

Over His enemies, for His is the Victory.

Cry out, cry out –

The Ascended Christ is victorious. And His enemies will fall – Philippians 2-

And bow in defeat, for today is the day of His Visitation. He is in the midst

And His glory fills the Temple.

And I will fight for the battle is the LORD's and the victory Mine.

Say: The LORD, the LORD, holy is He. Strong and righteous is He. He is your refuge, your strong tower, your helper. He upholds you with His righteous right hand. Isaiah 41:10.

The LORD is your Provider, Giver of every good and perfect gift.

The LORD is the Source of all Life and Blessing, Source of Living Waters.

The LORD is your shelter in the storm, a stronghold in the day of trouble. He guards you. He guards your heart and your mind in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4...

The LORD is your comfort, your peace. His Presence lifts you above your circumstances. He surrounds you with His perfect love, a love without a lie.

The LORD, the LORD is your defense. He brings you into the beauty of His holiness.

He will create for you a bunker. He is that bunker. Find the blessing of it.

Will you join me in declaring the LORD's victory? I pray you find the blessing of God being a "bunker." And may the Holy Spirit hover over you and your households and ministries as He brings the light of life and the light of truth, the light of the glorious gospel of Jesus Christ into your lives in fullness.

Lauding His glorious grace,

Mary Craig

Mary Craig, D. Min.

The LORD is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble.
And He knows them that trust in Him.
Nahum 1:7

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