

Prayer to Protect Your Family From Sickness & Harm

My friend Rhonda Rhea has seen the power of God's protection for her children. Recently, I got an email from Rhonda describing her daughter's misadventure on a Missouri freeway. Rhonda wrote, "My daughter was on 270 going 70 miles an hour. A semitruck driver didn't see her and hit her from the rear. A semi! Seventy miles an hour on one of the busiest, craziest highways in St. Louis. She doesn't have a scratch. The car is a bit messed up, but she was still able to drive it. She went on to work. There was so clearly a God intervention there. I'm amazed and so very thankful."

Later, when Rhonda and I were talking by phone, I told her, "You know, people don't get hit by semitrucks going 70 miles an hour and walk away, much less drive away."

"I know," Rhonda said. "If you ever saw that part of 270, you would say her escape was miraculous."

"You've been praying Psalm 91 over your children, haven't you?" I asked.

"I'm not sure."

I could hear the pages of Rhonda's Bible rustling. Then she came back on the line. "Yes, I not only pray that passage over my kids every day, but I also sing it! I just didn't recognize the reference."ⁱ

Psalm 91 is one of the oldest psalms in the Bible and is loaded with powerful promises. I believe God honored his promises over Rhonda's daughter because Rhonda claimed them for her kids.

Jewish tradition tells us that this Psalm of protection was written by Moses. Many have prayed this prayer daily over their lives and the lives of family members and have seen miraculous results. This prayer is also known as the soldier's prayer. One church, in the town of Seadrift, TX, adopted this psalm to pray over the 52 sons of their community who had left for the battlefields of WWII. Over twenty women met to pray this psalm daily and God honored their prayer by sending all 52 men home, unharmed.ⁱⁱ

Now it's your chance to pray this paraphrased version of Psalm 91 over yourself, and your family, particularly against harm, disease or destruction.

Dear God,

You are my refuge. I trust in you and I'm safe! You rescue me and *my family* from hidden traps; you shield me from deadly hazards. Your huge outstretched arms protect me and *my family* — and under your arms I'm perfectly safe because your arms fend off all harm. *My family* and I fear nothing —

- * not wild wolves in the night,
- * not flying arrows in the day,
- * not disease prowling in the darkness,
- * not disaster erupting at high noon.

Even though others succumb all around, drop like flies right and left, no harm will even graze me or *my family*. I and *my family* will stand untouched, watch it all from a distance, and watch the wicked turn into corpses.

Yes, because of you, GOD, MY refuge and my very own home, evil can't get close to me or *my family*; harm can't get through the door.

God has ordered his angels to guard me and *my family* wherever we go. If we stumble, the angels will catch us; their job is to keep us from falling. I and *my family* will walk unharmed among lions and snakes and kick young lions and serpents from the path.

God you say, "If you'll hold on to me for dear life, I'll get you out of any trouble. I'll give you the best of care if you'll only get to know and trust me."

God, I say I believe you and *am* holding on to you for dear life. As I get to know you more, I thank you for getting me and *my family* out of trouble. Thank you that you are giving me and *my family* the best of care.

God, you say, "Call me and I'll answer, I'll be at your side in bad times; I'll rescue you, then throw you a party. I'll give you a long life and give you a long drink of salvation!"

God, I say I *am* calling on you. Thank you for answering me and being at my and *my family's* side. Thank you for rescuing me and *my family*. I celebrate you. Thank you for giving me and *my family* long life and salvation.

In Jesus' name,
Amen.

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ⁱ Based on an interview with Rhonda Rhea. Used with permission.

ⁱⁱ Peggy Joyce Ruth, *Psalms 91: God's Shield of Protection* (Lake Mary, FL: Charisma House, 2007) P. 129.