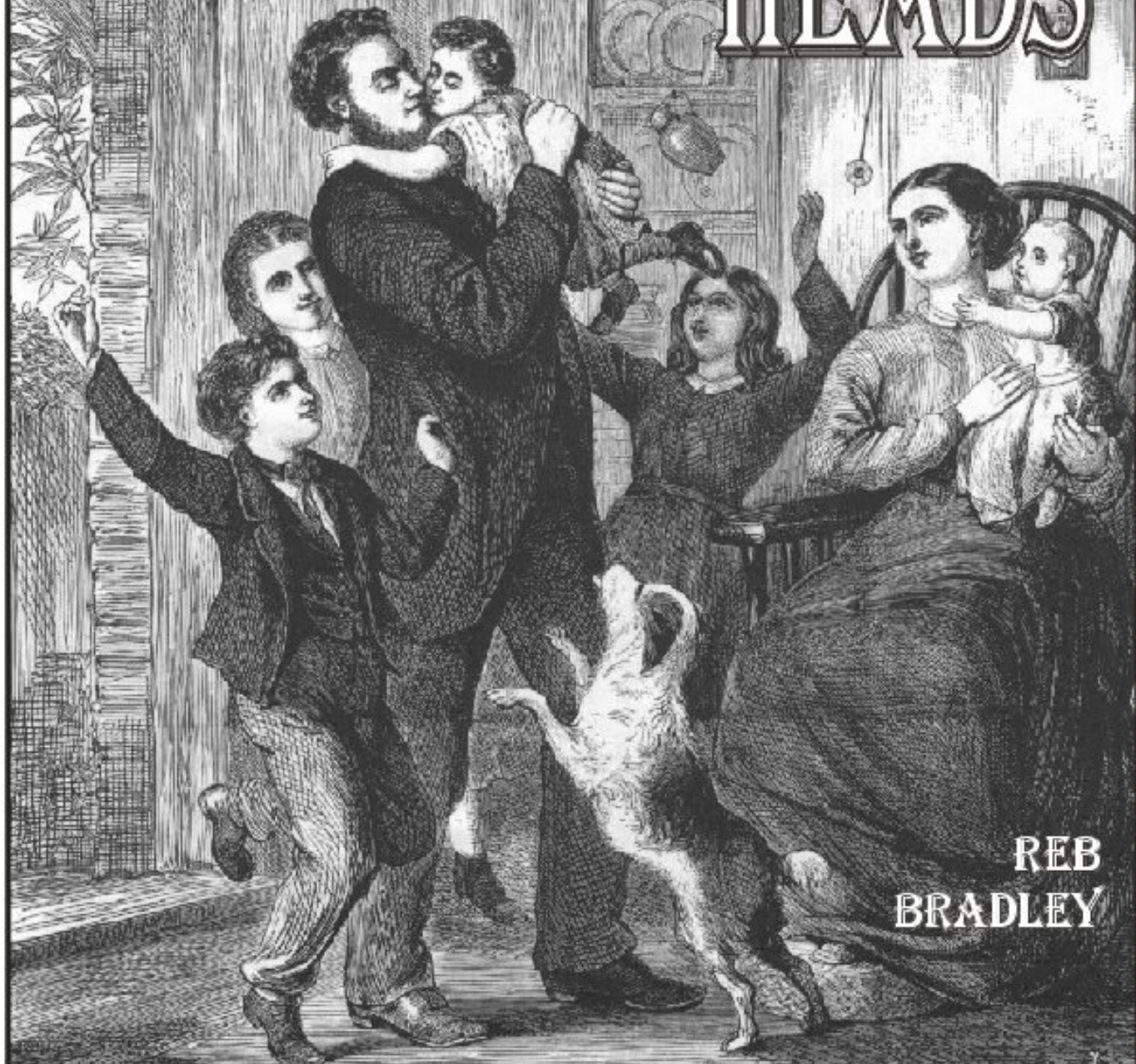


# FATHERS AS FAMILY HEADS



REB  
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EQUIPPING MEN FOR FAMILY LEADERSHIP

# FATHERS AS FAMILY HEADS

Reb Bradley

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## ***FAMILY HEADSHIP***

### **Joshua 24:15**

*"... But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD!"*

What about *family headship* allowed Joshua to declare that his family would serve the Lord God?

#### **I. God created Adam to set the pattern for proper, biblical headship.**

A. Adam was created by God and given the responsibility of overseeing the garden

*Gen 2:15 The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it.*

B. God created Eve as a helper to come along side Adam and assist him in achieving his calling.

*Gen 2:18 And the LORD God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help-meet for him.*

HELP-MEET ezer neged: one who stands before as a counterpart and surrounds with help

*1 Cor 11:8-9 For man did not come from woman, but woman from man; 9 neither was man created for woman, but woman for man.*

C. As soon as Eve was created as Adam's help-meet, he became the head of a family, modeling the role of men as family heads for all generations to follow.

#### **II. Throughout the Bible, God regarded men as the heads of their homes**

A. In the Old Testament family heads were mentioned 56 times

Exo 6:14; 6:25; Num 1:4; 7:2; 31:26; 32:28; 36:1; Josh 21:1; 22:14; 1 Ki 8:1; 1 Chr 5:15, 24; 7:2, 7, 9, 11, 40; 8:6, 10, 13, 28; 9:9, 13, 33, 34; 15:12; 23:9, 24; 24:4, 6, 31; 26:21, 26, 32; ;27:1; 2 Chr 1:2; 5:2; 19:8; 23:2; Ezra 1:5; 2:68; 3:12; 4:2, 3; 8:1, 29; 10:16; Neh 7:70, 71; 8:13; 11:13; 12:12, 22, 23

*Ex 6:14 These were the **heads of their families** : The sons of Reuben the firstborn son of Israel were Hanoch and Pallu, Hezron and Carmi. These were the clans of Reuben. ... 25 Eleazar son of Aaron married one of the daughters of Putiel, and she bore him Phinehas. These were the **heads of the Levite families**, clan by clan.*

*Num 1:4 One man from each tribe, each the **head of his family**, is to help you.*

B. In the New Testament men were directly admonished by God as family heads

*Eph 5:23 For the husband is the **head of the wife** as Christ is the **head** of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior.*

*1 Cor 11:3 Now I want you to realize that the head of every man is Christ, and **the head of the woman is man**, and the head of Christ is God.*

### III. Heads of homes were responsible to lead their families

Leadership involves ...

A. \_\_\_\_\_ and taking the family there; ie: spiritual, geographical, financial, health, education, etc.

*Mal 4:6 He will turn the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers; or else I will come and strike the land with a curse."*

*Titus 1:6 An elder must be blameless, the husband of but one wife, a man **whose children believe** and are not open to the charge of being wild and disobedient.*

B. \_\_\_\_\_ the family; Speaking for them, voting for them

*Num 1:4 One man from each tribe, each the head of his family, is to help you.*

*Josh 22:14 With him they sent ten of the chief men, one for each of the tribes of Israel, each the head of a family division among the Israelite clans.*

C.

*Deu 22:20-21 If, however, the charge is true and no proof of the girl's virginity can be found, 21 she shall be brought to the door of **her father's house** and there **the men of her town shall stone her to death**. She has done a disgraceful thing in Israel by being promiscuous while still in her father's house. You must purge the evil from among you.*

*1 Tim 5:8 If anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for his immediate family, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.*

D. Establishing

*1 Tim 3:4 one who **rules his own house** well, having **his children in submission** with all reverence 5 (for if a man does not know how to **rule his own house**, how will he take care of the church of God?)*

RULE proistemi, pro-is'-tay-mee; to stand in front of; a military term conveying the idea of one in superior rank leading his following; having rule over

SUBMISSION hupotage, hoop-ot-ag-ay'; to come under for the sake of order; subordination; subjection.

REVERENCE semnotes, sem-not'-ace; to regard with honor and respect

*Titus 1:6 An elder must be blameless, the husband of but one wife, a man **whose children believe** and are **not open to the charge of being wild and disobedient**.*

*1 Sam 3:13-14 For I told him that I would **judge his family forever** because of the sin he knew about; his sons made themselves contemptible, and he failed to restrain them. 14 Therefore, I swore to the house of Eli, 'The guilt of Eli's house will never be atoned for by sacrifice or offering.'"*

#### IV. The behavior of family heads affect their families

##### A. Men may bring upon their families

*Exo 20:5 You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, **punishing the children for the sin of the fathers** to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me,*

*Exo 34:6-7 And he passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, "The LORD, the LORD, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, 7 maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; **he punishes the children and their children for the sin of the fathers** to the third and fourth generation."*

*Num 14:18 ... **he punishes the children for the sin of the fathers** to the third and fourth generation.'*

*Num 16:27-33 31 As soon as he finished saying all this, the ground under them split apart 32 and **the earth opened its mouth and swallowed them, with their households** and all Korah's men and all their possessions. 33 They went down alive into the grave, with everything they owned; the earth closed over them, and they perished and were gone from the community.*

*Josh 7:24-25 Then Joshua, together with all Israel, **took Achan** son of Zerah, the silver, the robe, the gold wedge, **his sons and daughters**, his cattle, donkeys and sheep, his tent and all that he had, to the Valley of Achor. 25 Joshua said, "Why have you brought this trouble on us? The LORD will bring trouble on you today." **Then all Israel stoned him, and after they had stoned the rest, they burned them.***

##### B. Men can bring upon their families

*Deu 5:9-10 You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, **punishing the children for the sin of the fathers** to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, 10 but **showing love to a thousand generations** of those who love me and keep my commandments.*

*Jer 32:18 You show love to thousands but bring the **punishment for the fathers' sins into the laps of their children** after them. O great and powerful God, whose name is the LORD Almighty,*

#### V. A wise family head follows Joshua's example

He protects his family from \_\_\_\_\_ and directs them to \_\_\_\_\_

*Josh 24:14 "Now fear the LORD and serve him with all faithfulness. **Throw away the gods your forefathers worshiped** beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. 15 But if serving the LORD seems undesirable to you, then **choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve**, whether the gods your forefathers served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But **as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.**" 16 Then the people answered, "**Far be it from us to forsake the LORD to serve other gods!***

Joshua 24:14 "Now fear the LORD and serve him with all faithfulness. **Throw away the gods your forefathers worshiped** beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. 15 But if serving the LORD seems undesirable to you, then **choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve**, whether the gods your forefathers served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But **as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.**" 16 Then the people answered, "**Far be it from us to forsake the LORD to serve other gods!**" 17 It was the LORD our God himself who brought us and our fathers up out of Egypt, from that land of slavery, and performed those great signs before our eyes. He protected us on our entire journey and among all the nations through which we traveled. 18 And the LORD drove out before us all the nations, including the Amorites, who lived in the land. **We too will serve the LORD, because he is our God.**" 19 Joshua said to the people, "You are not able to serve the LORD. He is a holy God; he is a jealous God. He will not forgive your rebellion and your sins. 20 If you forsake the LORD and serve foreign gods, he will turn and bring disaster on you and make an end of you, after he has been good to you." 21 But the people said to Joshua, "**No! We will serve the LORD.**" 22 Then Joshua said, "You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen to serve the LORD." "Yes, we are witnesses," they replied. 23 "Now then," said Joshua, "**throw away the foreign gods that are among you and yield your hearts to the LORD**, the God of Israel." 24 And the people said to Joshua, "**We will serve the LORD our God and obey him.**" 25 On that day Joshua made a covenant for the people, and there at Shechem he drew up for them decrees and laws. 26 And Joshua recorded these things in the Book of the Law of God. Then he took a large stone and set it up there under the oak near the holy place of the LORD. 27 "See!" he said to all the people. "This stone will be a witness against us. It has heard all the words the LORD has said to us. It will be a witness against you if you are untrue to your God." 28 Then Joshua sent the people away, each to his own inheritance. 29 After these things, Joshua son of Nun, the servant of the LORD, died at the age of a hundred and ten. 30 And they buried him in the land of his inheritance, at Timnath Serah in the hill country of Ephraim, north of Mount Gaash. 31 **Israel served the LORD throughout the lifetime of Joshua and of the elders** who outlived him and who had experienced everything the LORD had done for Israel.



# HUSBAND, FATHER, PROTECTOR

Eph 5:21-33

*1 Pet 3:7 Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers.*

**GOD IS OUR MODEL PROTECTOR** -- Ps 41:2; 37:28; 5:11; 116:6; John 17:11; 2 Thes 3:3

**I. GUARDS** -- Phil 4:7; 2 Tim 1:12; 1 Pet 1:5; Prov 2:8

*Phil 4:7 And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

*2 Timothy 1:12 That is why I am suffering as I am. Yet I am not ashamed, because I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him for that day.*

*1 Pet 1:5 who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.*

*Proverbs 2:8 for he guards the course of the just and protects the way of his faithful ones.*

A. Ps 121:4; 146:9

*Psalms 121:4 indeed, he who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.*

*Psalms 146:9 The LORD watches over the alien and sustains the fatherless and the widow, but he frustrates the ways of the wicked.*

B. Ps 34:7; 125:2; Zech 2:5

*Ps 34:7 The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him, and he delivers them.*

*Ps 125:2 As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the LORD surrounds his people both now and forevermore.*

*Zechariah 2:5 And I myself will be a wall of fire around it,' declares the LORD, 'and I will be its glory within.'*

C. Gen 28:15; Deut 31:6, 8; Josh 1:5; Heb 13:5

*Genesis 28:15 I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go, and I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you."*

*Deuteronomy 31:6 Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you."*

*Deuteronomy 31:8 The LORD himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged."*

*Joshua 1:5 No one will be able to stand up against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you.*

*Hebrews 13:5 Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you."*

D. Ps 91:4; 5:11; 36:7; 61:4; 63:7

*Ps 5:11 But let all who take refuge in you be glad; let them ever sing for joy. Spread your protection over them, that those who love your name may rejoice in you.*

*Ps 36:7 How priceless is your unfailing love! Both high and low among men find refuge in the shadow of your wings.*

*Ps 61:4 I long to dwell in your tent forever and take refuge in the shelter of your wings. Selah*

*Ps 63:7 Because you are my help, I sing in the shadow of your wings.*

*Ps 91:4 He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart.*



## II. DEFENSE -- Psa 10:18; 68:5; 72:4; 82:3

*Psalms 10:18 defending the fatherless and the oppressed, in order that man, who is of the earth, may terrify no more.*

*Psalms 68:5 A father to the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in his holy dwelling.*

*Psalms 72:4 He will defend the afflicted among the people and save the children of the needy; he will crush the oppressor.*

*Psalms 82:3 Defend the cause of the weak and fatherless; maintain the rights of the poor and oppressed.*

### A. Nah 1:7; Ps 119:114; 46:1; Deut 33:27; Is 25:4

*Nahum 1:7 The LORD is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in him,*

*Deuteronomy 33:27 The eternal God is your refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms. He will drive out your enemy before you, saying, 'Destroy him!'*

*Psalms 46:1 For the director of music. Of the Sons of Korah. According to alamothe. A song. God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.*

*Psalms 119:114 You are my refuge and my shield; I have put my hope in your word.*

*Isaiah 25:4 You have been a refuge for the poor, a refuge for the needy in his distress, a shelter from the storm and a shade from the heat. For the breath of the ruthless is like a storm driving against a wall*

### B. Ps 17:8; 27:5; 31:20; 32:7; 64:2

*Psalms 17:8 Keep me as the apple of your eye; hide me in the shadow of your wings*

*Psalms 27:5 For in the day of trouble he will keep me safe in his dwelling; he will hide me in the shelter of his tabernacle and set me high upon a rock.*

*Psalms 31:20 In the shelter of your presence you hide them from the intrigues of men; in your dwelling you keep them safe from accusing tongues.*

*Psalms 32:7 You are my hiding place; you will protect me from trouble and surround me with songs of deliverance. Selah*

*Psalms 64:2 Hide me from the conspiracy of the wicked, from that noisy crowd of evildoers.*

### C. 2 Sam 22:2; Ps 31:2; 18:2; 94:22; 71:3

*2 Samuel 22:2 He said: "The LORD is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer;*

*Psalms 18:2 The LORD is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge. He is my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.*

*Psalms 31:2 Turn your ear to me, come quickly to my rescue; be my rock of refuge, a strong fortress to save me.*

*Psalms 71:3 Be my rock of refuge, to which I can always go; give the command to save me, for you are my rock and my fortress.*

*Psalms 94:22 But the LORD has become my fortress, and my God the rock in whom I take refuge.*

### **III. FIGHTS FOR US -- Ex 14:14; Deut 1:30; 3:22; 2 Chron 32:8; Neh 4:20**

*Exodus 14:14 The LORD will fight for you; you need only to be still."*

*Deuteronomy 1:30 The LORD your God, who is going before you, will fight for you, as he did for you in Egypt, before your very eyes,*

*Deuteronomy 3:22 Do not be afraid of them; the LORD your God himself will fight for you."*

*2 Chronicles 32:8 With him is only the arm of flesh, but with us is the LORD our God to help us and to fight our battles." And the people gained confidence from what Hezekiah the king of Judah said.*

*Nehemiah 4:20 Wherever you hear the sound of the trumpet, join us there. Our God will fight for us!"*

#### **A. Ex 15:3**

*Exodus 15:3 The LORD is a warrior; the LORD is his name.*

#### **B. 2 Tim 4:18; Ps 143:9; 40:17**

*Psalms 40:17 Yet I am poor and needy; may the Lord think of me. You are my help and my deliverer; O my God, do not delay.*

*Psalms 143:9 Rescue me from my enemies, O LORD, for I hide myself in you.*

*2 Timothy 4:18 The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and will bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen.*

#### **C. Zech 9:15; 12:8; Gen 15:1; Deut 33:29; Ps 28:7; 33:20; 84:11; 115:9; Prov 30:5**

*Genesis 15:1 After this, the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision: "Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your very great reward."*

*Deuteronomy 33:29 Blessed are you, O Israel! Who is like you, a people saved by the LORD? He is your shield and helper and your glorious sword. Your enemies will cower before you, and you will trample down their high places."*

*Psalms 28:7 The LORD is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and I am helped. My heart leaps for joy and I will give thanks to him in song.*

*Psalms 33:20 We wait in hope for the LORD; he is our help and our shield.*

*Psalms 84:11 For the LORD God is a sun and shield; the LORD bestows favor and honor; no good thing does he withhold from those whose walk is blameless.*

*Psalms 115:9 O house of Israel, trust in the LORD-- he is their help and shield.*

*Proverbs 30:5 "Every word of God is flawless; he is a shield to those who take refuge in him.*

*Zechariah 9:15 and the LORD Almighty will shield them. They will destroy and overcome with slingstones. They will drink and roar as with wine; they will be full like a bowl used for sprinkling the corners of the altar.*

*Zechariah 12:8 On that day the LORD will shield those who live in Jerusalem, so that the feeblest among them will be like David, and the house of David will be like God, like the Angel of the LORD going before them.*

#### **IV. STRENGTHENS -- 2 Chron 16:9; Is 41:10; Phil 4:13**

*2 Chronicles 16:9 For the eyes of the LORD range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him. You have done a foolish thing, and from now on you will be at war."*

*Isaiah 41:10 So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.*

*Philippians 4:13 I can do everything through him who gives me strength.*

##### **A. Ps 18:31, 46; 19:14; 28:1; 31:3; 62:2; 71:3; 89:26; 95:1**

tsuwr, tsoor; or tsur, tsoor; a cliff; a rock or boulder

*Psalms 18:31 For who is God besides the LORD? And who is the Rock except our God?*

*Psalms 18:46 The LORD lives! Praise be to my Rock! Exalted be God my Savior!*

*Psalms 19:14 May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, O LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer.*

*Psalms 28:1 Of David. To you I call, O LORD my Rock; do not turn a deaf ear to me. For if you remain silent, I will be like those who have gone down to the pit.*

*Psalms 31:3 Since you are my rock and my fortress, for the sake of your name lead and guide me.*

*Psalms 62:2 He alone is my rock and my salvation; he is my fortress, I will never be shaken.*

*Psalms 71:3 Be my rock of refuge, to which I can always go; give the command to save me, for you are my rock and my fortress.*

*Psalms 89:26 He will call out to me, 'You are my Father, my God, the Rock my Savior.'*

*Psalms 95:1 Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.*

##### **B. Job 11:18; Ps 91:5; 112:7; Prov 1:33; 3:24**

*Job 11:18 You will be secure, because there is hope; you will look about you and take your rest in safety.*

*Psalms 91:5 You will not fear the terror of night, nor the arrow that flies by day,*

*Psalms 112:7 He will have no fear of bad news; his heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD.*

*Proverbs 1:33 but whoever listens to me will live in safety and be at ease, without fear of harm."*

*Proverbs 3:24 when you lie down, you will not be afraid; when you lie down, your sleep will be sweet.*

#### **V. BEING THE BEST PROTECTOR OF YOUR HOME**

##### **A.**

##### **B.**

*Ephesians 6:11-12 Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.*

*2 Cor 2:11 in order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes.*

##### **C.**

*Proverbs 14:26 He who fears the LORD has a secure fortress, and for his children it will be a refuge.*

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