



Have you found a

**hiding
place?**

**ANXIETY! STRESS! WORRY!
TROUBLE! UNCERTAINTY!
PRESSURE! CONFUSION!**

These words express what life has become for many people in the world today. In order to escape this hectic life, many people try to find a **hiding place** from the pressures of everyday living. This hiding place may be a vacation, a sport, a hobby, or even exercise. Whatever it is, it offers an **escape**, a chance to “get away from it all.” As often as they can, they retreat to this hiding place in order to find rest and relaxation for their bodies and minds.

Some of these people also feel they have a much **deeper need** spiritually before God. Realizing that they are not what they should be, they attempt to find a hiding place to shelter them from the **wrath of God**. But who, or what, can be a hiding place from a holy and righteous God?

Can works be a hiding place? After all, if one has done her best, won't God accept her? The Bible says: “*There is none that doeth good, no, not one*” (Romans 3:12). “*All our righteousnesses are as filthy rags*” (Isaiah 64:6). Clearly, good works cannot be a hiding place from God.

*“And a Man
shall be as an
hiding place
from the
wind, and a
covert from
the tempest;
as rivers of
water in a
dry place, as
the shadow
of a great
rock in a
weary land.”*

(Isaiah 32:2)

What about the law? If one keeps the Ten Commandments which God gave to man, will this be a hiding place from God's wrath? Hear again what God declares: “*By the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in His [God's] sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin*” (Romans 3:20). “*For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all*” (James 2:10). The law cannot be a hiding place. Rather, it condemns us all, showing what great sinners we really are.

Does religion provide refuge? Hear what the Lord Jesus told a religious leader of the Jews: “*Ye must be born again*” (John 3:7). Outward religious pursuits cannot be a hiding place; our need is on a deeper level.

But thanks be to God, HE has provided a Hiding Place for us that shields us from His holy wrath against sin. As Isaiah 32:2 tells us, this Hiding Place is a Person—God's beloved Son, Jesus Christ. He is the Holy One “*who gave Himself for our sins,*” bearing the wrath of a Holy God (Galatians 1:4). Now He is risen from the dead, and offers forgiveness and eternal life to all who will put their trust in Him. Yes, He is the true Hiding Place from the storms of judgment about to fall upon this wicked world.

He will be your Hiding Place if you turn to God in repentance and by faith accept the Lord Jesus Christ as your own personal Savior. "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth My Word, and believeth on Him that sent Me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life" (John 5:24). Then, and only then, will you be safe and secure.

Dear friend, will you trust the Lord Jesus as your Savior today? If you do, you will have a **Hiding Place** from the judgment and wrath of God. You will also have a **Friend** who will never leave you or forsake you, One who will help you with the pressures of everyday living. Through walking with God, and serving Jesus Christ, you will experience **peace** and **joy** you never thought possible.

You will then be able to say, "*Thou art my Hiding Place; Thou shalt preserve me from trouble; Thou shalt compass me about with songs of deliverance*" (Psalm 32:7).

—John D. McNeil

