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Sermon by Prophet Kobus van Rensburg

SHADOWS OF POWER

The Song of Solomon is a book written in parables; there is a mystery behind the love of Jesus for us and we must understand it if we want to understand the book. It is not about Solomon and one of his wives. It is a prophetic book that speaks in a parable about God's relationship with us and us with Him.

Song of Solomon 2:1-4,8,10-13 (KJV) I AM the rose of Sharon, and the lily of the valleys. As the lily among thorns, so is my love among the daughters. As the apple tree among the trees of the wood, so is my beloved among the sons. I sat down under HIS SHADOW with great delight, and HIS FRUIT was sweet to my taste. He brought me to the banqueting house, and HIS BANNER over me was love.

The voice of my beloved! Behold, He comes leaping upon the mountains, skipping upon the hills.

My beloved spoke, and said unto me: "Rise up, my love, my fair one, and come away. For, lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of birds is come, and the voice of the turtle is heard in our land. The fig tree puts forth her green figs, and the vines with the tender grape give a good smell. Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away."

After God tells us that He is the Rose of Sharon and the Lily of the Valleys and that it is under His Shadow that is delight, He tells us that everything is going to be good for us. There will be fruit on the trees and a sweet smell in the garden.

IN THE SECRET PLACE UNDER HIS SHADOW

Song of Solomon 2:14-17 (KJV) O my dove, that art in the CLEFTS OF THE ROCK, in the SECRET PLACES OF THE STAIRS, let me see THY COUNTENANCE, let me hear thy voice; for sweet is thy voice, and thy countenance is comely. Take us the foxes, the little foxes that spoil the vines: for our vines have tender grapes. MY BELOVED IS MINE, and I AM HIS: he feeds among the lilies. Until the day break, and the shadows flee away, turn, my beloved...



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We will sit down under His Shadow and then He says that we must rise up and come away. That is a secret and it is an art to come away and meet with the One underneath Whose Shadow you will find shelter. He wants to meet with us and will hide us in the Secret Places.

Jesus also spoke in parables; in a story with a meaning and you have to understand the secret behind the mystery to understand the parable. Most people didn't understand the meaning of the parables and when the disciples were alone with Jesus they asked Him to explain it to them. Every parable had a true meaning behind it.

UNDER THE SHADOW OF THE CLOUD

Mark 9 says that the cloud covered them, they were under the shadow of the cloud and out of the cloud came the voice that said, "This is My Beloved Son, listen to Him." That all happened under the shadow of the cloud. When they went down the mountain, the disciples wanted to cast out a demon of a little boy. They could not heal him and Jesus told them to bring the boy to Him.

Matthew 17:19-20 (Amplified) Then the disciples came to Jesus and asked privately, Why could we not drive it out? He said to them, Because of the littleness of your faith [that is, your lack of firmly relying trust]. For truly I say to you, if you have faith [that is living] like a grain of mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, Move from here to yonder place, and it will move; and NOTHING WILL BE IMPOSSIBLE TO YOU.

Jesus was on the mountain when a cloud came and covered them. They were under the shadow of the cloud (Mark 9) and when they came out, Jesus healed the demon possessed boy. When the other disciples asked why they could not heal him, Jesus told them that they must have mustard seed faith and when they have that kind of faith, nothing would be impossible for them. It is time for us to get there. In Luke 17 the disciples asked Jesus to increase their faith. Jesus also told them that they must have faith like that of a mustard seed. In Mark 11 Peter was astonished to see the fig tree withered away because Jesus cursed it. He told them to have faith in God for whosoever shall say unto this mountain to be removed and be cast into the sea shall have whatever he says. Three of the scriptures talk about faith

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and two talks about mustard seed faith. All of them say that nothing shall be impossible for you or whatever you ask you shall have if you have this faith.

Mark 4:30 (Amplified) And He said, With what can we COMPARE the kingdom of God, or what PARABLE shall we use to illustrate and explain it?

In Matthew 13 this same story is repeated and it said that Jesus told them a parable.

Mark 4:31 (Amplified) It is like a grain of MUSTARD SEED, which, when sown upon the ground, is the SMALLEST OF ALL SEEDS upon the earth...

In the other scriptures the mustard seed is compared to faith, but here it talks about the Kingdom, saying that it is like a grain of mustard.

UNDER THE SHADOW OF THE TREE

Mark 4:32 (Amplified) Yet after it is sown, it grows up and becomes the GREATEST OF ALL GARDEN HERBS and puts out large branches, so that the birds of the air are able to make nests and DWELL in its SHADE.

In Matthew 13 it says that the mustard seed becomes a tree.

Mark 4:33 (Amplified) With many such PARABLES [Jesus] spoke the Word to them, as they were able to HEAR and to COMPREHEND and UNDERSTAND.

Jesus told them that they must have mustard seed faith for then nothing shall be impossible, but when they came out of the shadow of the cloud from the mountain, Jesus also said it. Jesus wanted to explain it better and said that the



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Kingdom, which means God's authority and power, is like a grain of mustard seed and when it grows it becomes greater or bigger than all the herbs. When it gets great it throws a shadow so that the fowl of the air can come and dwell there under its shadow.

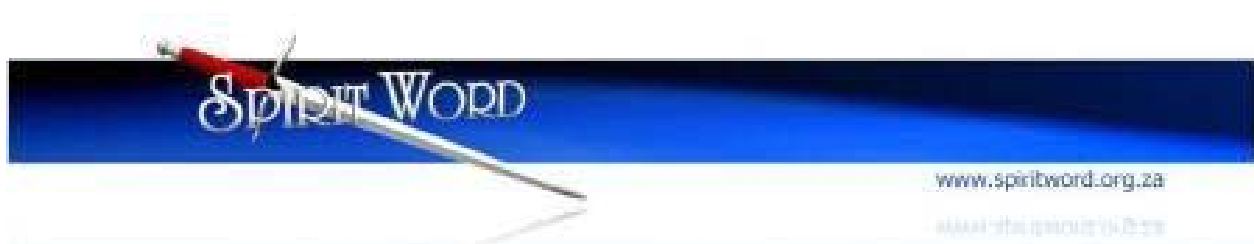
We saw the shadow in the Song of Solomon, the shadow under the cloud on the mountain and now the shadow of the mustard seed tree. I Timothy 6:16 says that God stays in a light that no man can enter into. James 1:17 says that God is the Father of Lights and there is no variable or any shadow of turning in Him. God has so much light that He can't throw a shadow no matter where He turns, because light radiates from Him. God stays in an inaccessible light. God is Light. Why then the references to 'shadows'? Because it is parables.

Peter was called Simon and sometimes Simon Peter and at times Simon Simon. He was the one who asked Jesus about this faith thing the most. When he messed it up, he was called Simon Peter and when he really messed up, Jesus called him Simon Simon. He wanted to walk on the water because he wanted to understand faith. In Acts 5:15 they carried the people out on the streets with the intention that Peter's shadow could fall on them and they would be healed. What is the connection? Peter must have understood this faith thing so that he didn't even have to pray for the sick, but his shadow healed them. Peter threw a shadow, but God is only light and does not have a shadow. There was a real shadow when the cloud covered the mountain. What is the meaning of this parable?

A DWELLING PLACE FOR GOD

First God had a tabernacle in the desert with Moses and the Israelites and then He had a temple in Jerusalem where He dwelt amongst the people. Now God has a worldwide temple, which is not made with hands. We are the temples of the Holy Spirit and God dwells in us.

The tabernacle had an outer court, a Holy Place and a Most Holy Place where the high priest entered once a year to offer up sacrifices of blood that he sprinkled on the mercy seat for the sins of the people. The mercy seat was upon the Ark, which was in the Most Holy Place. Whenever the tabernacle was erected, the people could not see the Ark and they could not come in there, because the glory filled the place. They would die if they even looked at it. When the tabernacle was taken down and they moved from one place to another place, all the people could see it, because the glory was not there. The tabernacle was a shadow.



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Exodus 25:19-22 (KJV) And make one cherub on the one end, and the other cherub on the other end: even of the mercy seat shall you make the cherubim on the two ends thereof. And the cherubim shall stretch forth their wings on high, covering the mercy seat with their wings, and their faces shall look one to another; toward the mercy seat shall the faces of the cherubim be. And thou shall put the mercy seat above upon the ark; and in the ark thou shall put the testimony that I shall give thee. And THERE I WILL MEET WITH YOU AND I WILL COMMUNE WITH YOU from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubim which are upon the ark of the testimony, of all things which I will give thee in commandment unto the children of Israel.

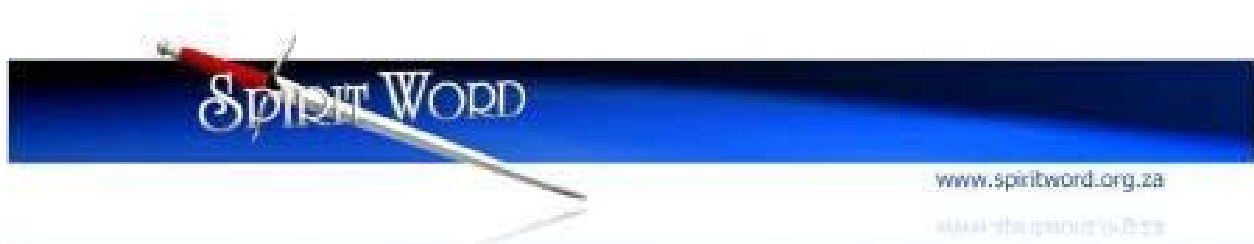
This Ark was a shadow of the things to come. God did not meet with Moses on the way, but he had to put up the tabernacle and then in the Most Holy Place on the Ark under the wings of the cherubim, 'There' God would meet with him. Moses went into the tent and all the people stood before their tents. They saw the Glory went up to heaven and then God spoke face to face with Moses. Moses came out of the tent and would tell the people what God said. Aaron was supposed to be the high priest; he could only go in once a year, but Moses went in any time of the day and any day he wanted to. He met with God 'There.' There under the wings God met with him and spoke intimately with him.

It is time to get intimate with God. In the Song of Solomon God is the Beloved and He calls us to come away and meet with Him; He wants to speak with us intimately. We have lost the art of being intimate with God. 'There' we hear His voice and feel His touch. 'There' He meets us face to face and wants to do awesome things in our life.

GOD DWELLS IN THICK DARKNESS

Exodus 20:21-22 (KJV) And the people stood afar off, and Moses drew near unto the THICK DARKNESS where God was. And the LORD said unto Moses, Thus thou shall say unto the children of Israel: "You have seen that I HAVE TALKED WITH YOU FROM HEAVEN."

Whenever God wanted to speak to the Israelites, Moses had to enter thick darkness. When he came out of darkness, he told them that God spoke to him. God is Light and He throws no shadow, but Moses had to enter a thick darkness - the Holy of Holies was a dark place. The only Light in the Most Holy Place was when God accepted the offer, then the Shekinah Glory of God lit up the place, the smoke went up to heaven and the fire burnt. Then God met intimately and He spoke.



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As the years passed, the Ark was stolen and they got it back. Then Solomon built God a temple with a lot of gold and they dedicated it.

II Chronicles 5:12 (KJV) Also the Levites which were the singers, all of them of Asaph, of Heman, of Jeduthun, with their sons and their brethren, being arrayed in white linen, having cymbals and psalteries and harps, stood at the east end of the altar, and with them an HUNDRED AND TWENTY priests sounding with trumpets:)

There were 120 priests, the same number of people that were together on the day of Pentecost. The blowing of a trumpet means that an announcement was made.

II Chronicles 5:13-14; 6:1 (KJV) It came even to pass, as the trumpeters and singers were as ONE, to make ONE SOUND to be heard in praising and thanking the LORD. And when they lifted up their voice with the trumpets and cymbals and instruments of music, and praised the LORD, saying: "For He is good; for his mercy endureth for ever," that then the house was filled with a CLOUD, even the house of the LORD. So that the priests could not stand to minister by reason of the cloud: for the GLORY of the LORD had FILLED THE HOUSE of God.

Then said Solomon, The LORD hath said that HE WOULD DWELL IN THICK DARKNESS.

It is almost the same as the Day of Pentecost when they were in one accord together. 120 priests blew the trumpets in one accord and a cloud came and filled the temple. It was the Glory of God and it was so thick that the priests fell out under the power. Then Solomon stood up and said that this power and Glory is the saying that God dwells in thick darkness.

The Song of Solomon is parables and Jesus spoke in parables. The tabernacle and Ark were just shadows of the things to come.

Psalms 18:11-12 (KJV) He made DARKNESS HIS SECRET PLACE; His pavilion round about Him were DARK WATERS and THICK CLOUDS of the skies. At the brightness that was before Him His THICK CLOUDS passed, hail stones and coals of fire.



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When David was distressed about his enemies that wanted to attack him, he cried out to God and mentioned it to God that His Secret Place would be in thick darkness. In thick darkness no one can see you and your enemies can't find you. God hides us under His Pavilion of thick clouds.

SECRETS ARE FOUND WHERE GOD DWELLS

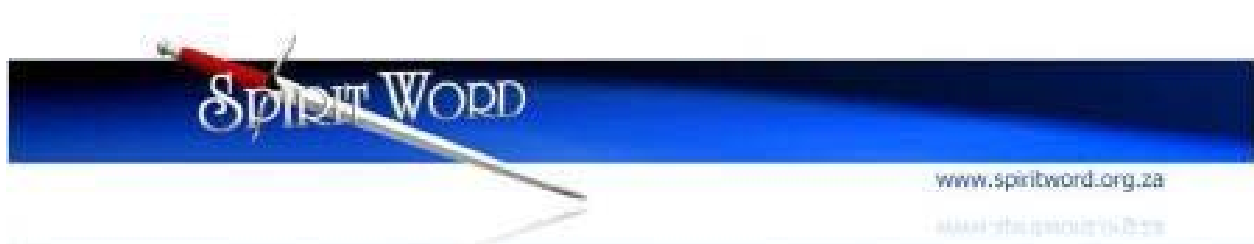
Deuteronomy 29:29 (KJV) The SECRET THINGS belong unto the LORD our God: but those things which are REVEALED belong unto us and to our children for ever, that we may do all the words of this law.

God hides His secrets in dark places and He reveals it to us 'There.' Darkness means mysteries, depths, shadows and secrets. All these things are treasures and hidden things that have to be found.

Psalm 91:1-4 (Amplified) He who dwells in the SECRET PLACE of the Most High shall remain stable and fixed under the shadow of the Almighty [Whose power no foe can withstand.] I will say of the LORD, He is my Refuge and my Fortress, my God; on Him I lean and rely and in Him I [confidently] trust. For [then] He will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence. [Then] He will cover you with His pinions and under HIS WINGS shall you trust and found refuge. His truth and His faithfulness are a shield and a buckler.

If you can get into the Secret Place, which is the Holy Place, you will find shelter underneath the wings. 'There' God meets intimately with you and speaks with you. No foe can touch you, no enemy can come near you and angels will be around you. Psalm 91 is about the place called 'There' where God dwells in thick darkness and when you dwell in that place you find shelter under the shadow of His wings. The Secret Place is thick darkness, where you find shelter under the wings, which is called shadows. The wings throw the shadow, which are the cherubim and the angels, who cover the Glory.

Isaiah 6:1-4 (KJV) In the year that king Uzziah died I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and His train filled the temple. Above it stood the seraphims: each one had six wings; with twain he COVERED his face, and with twain he COVERED his feet, and with twain he did fly. And one cried unto another, and said, "Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts: the whole earth is full of HIS GLORY." And the posts of the door moved at the voice of him that cried, and the house was FILLED WITH SMOKE.



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The wings cover the Glory. Under the wings there is thick darkness or shadows and 'There' you find protection and shelter. When you go through the thick darkness, which is called Secret Place, you will find a Light that no man can enter. In Exodus 24 when Moses came down from the mountain, he did not know that his face was shining because of the Glory. II Corinthians 3 says that the Law had so much glory that Moses had to cover his face. Imagine the Glory that we must have now that we have the Holy Spirit.

UNDER HIS WINGS YOUR SHADOW WILL HEAL THE SICK

Psalm 36:7-9 (KJV) How excellent is thy loving-kindness, O God! Therefore the children of men put their trust under the SHADOW OF THY WINGS. They shall be abundantly satisfied with the fatness of thy house; and thou shall make them drink of the river of thy pleasures. For with thee is the fountain of life: in thy light shall we see light.

'There' under the wings is a river of pleasure and abundance of fatness, which is called the anointing. You must get under the shadow of the wings.

Psalm 75:1-3 (KJV) Be merciful unto me, O God, be merciful unto me: for my soul trusts in thee: yea, in the SHADOW OF THY WINGS will I make my REFUGE, until these calamities be overpass. I will CRY UNTO GOD Most High; unto God that PERFORMS ALL THINGS FOR ME. HE SHALL SEND FROM HEAVEN, and SAVE ME from the REPROACH of him that would swallow me up. Selah. God shall send forth his mercy and his truth.

If you get into the thick darkness where the shadow is thrown, then you find refuge. You will grow like a mustard seed that grows bigger than all the other herbs of its sort and under your shadow nothing shall be impossible. Whatever you ask you'll get and nothing shall hurt or harm you. No foe can stand up against you. Glory means: all that God has and all that He is. If the darkness is the Glory Cloud, which means all God's power and you get into that dark place under the wings, you will grow in the house of the LORD. When you come out and know what the parable of the mustard seed, the Kingdom and faith is and you combined it together, your shadows will heal the sick. We will have shadows of power. This is mystery.



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'There' is not an easy place to live, because when you enter the Kingdom there will be persecution and tribulation. People will talk about you and hate you.

SAY IN THE LIGHT WHAT GOD TELLS IN THE DARKNESS

Matthew 10:22-27 (Amplified) And you will be hated by all for My name's sake, but he who perseveres and endures to the end will be saved [from spiritual disease and death in the world to come]. When they persecute you in one town [that is, pursue you in a manner that would injure you and cause you to suffer because of your belief], flee to another town; for truly I tell you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes. A disciple is not above his teacher, nor is a servant or slave above his master. It is sufficient for the disciple to be like his teacher, and the servant or slave like his master. If they have called the Master of the house Beelzebub [master of the dwelling], how much more will they speak evil of those of His household. [II Kings 1:2]. So have no fear of them; for nothing is concealed that will not be revealed, or kept secret that will not become known. What I SAY TO YOU IN THE DARK, TELL IT IN THE LIGHT; and what you hear whispered in the ear, proclaim upon the housetops.

For years this scripture was explained that, what people do in darkness will be brought to the light. God says that what He tells and reveals to us in the Secret Place will be told in the light and then people will call you a devil. Preachers all over the world preach the most beautiful messages and they are never persecuted. One that presses through the thick darkness and hear from heaven and announce it will be called a devil. They that are called devils are they that work miracles, see power and preach revelations. People that just prepare messages are never persecuted.

Matthew 10:28-32 (Amplified) And do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; but rather be afraid of Him who can destroy both soul and body in hell (Gehenna). Are not two little sparrows sold for a penny? And yet not one of them will fall to the ground without your Father's leave (consent) and notice. But even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not, then; you are of more value than many sparrows. Therefore, everyone who acknowledges Me before men and confesses Me [out of a state of ONENESS WITH ME], I will also acknowledge him before My Father Who is in HEAVEN and confess [that I AM ABIDING IN] him.

The Bible says that we must hold steadfast to the High Priest of our confession where He will meet intimately with us and speak intimately with you in thick darkness. It does not mean that it has to be dark outside. You can stand underneath the sun. There is a place in God where you will hear a whisper in your ear that just says something and then you will be persecuted when you go and tell it. You did not get it from a sermon note or a study book, but you got

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it because you entered somewhere. If you reach that place, hear from God in the dark and you go out and reveal it in the light, then the High Priest, Jesus goes to the Father and says that He must watch you. You and God become one and you were prepared to go and say it in the light. Then God acknowledges that you need to be watched over.

SHUT YOUR DOOR AND PRAY IN THE SECRET PLACE

Matthew 6:6 (Amplified) But when you pray, go into your [most] private room, and, CLOSING THE DOOR, pray to your Father, WHO IS IN SECRET; and your Father, Who sees in secret, will reward you in the open.

Jesus did not say your house's door or your church's door, but your own door. "The Father Who sees in secret..." means that you've just cut yourself off from your wife and children and all the others who pray with you. You go to the Father in the secret and He, Who sees in the secret, will reward you openly. When we worship you must cut yourself off and go to your Father in the Secret Place that dwells in the thick darkness, under the wings of the cherubim and under the shadow of the Almighty and then He speaks in your ear. He will tell you who to go to, to get him healed. There is an open reward, because the Father Who sees in secret will reward you openly. There will also be people that will persecute you.

GOD WILL REWARD THOSE TIMES IN DARKNESS

I Corinthians 4:5 (Amplified) So do not make any hasty or premature judgments before the time when the Lord comes [again], for He will both BRING TO LIGHT the SECRET THINGS that are [now HIDDEN] IN DARKNESS and disclose and expose the [secret] aims (motives and purposes) of hearts. Then every man will receive his [due] commendation from God.

Do not judge before the time, because there will be a time when God will come and bring to the light the hidden things of darkness and manifest the councils of the heart. As in Matthew 10, the doctrine was that people must do what they want; for the day will come that God will come and prove everything. This scripture does not say that, but that you do not know where someone else is spending his time in hidden secret places of darkness, because at the appointed time God will reward those.



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I Corinthians 4:6(a) (Amplified) Now I have applied ALL THIS [about parties and factions] to myself and Apollos for your sakes...

Do not judge your brother or sisters till God comes. When God comes, He'll allow us to even judge the angels. Will we judge the things that you did wrong? No, the hidden secrets of darkness that will get the praises of God on that person's life will be brought to light. Watch out what you say about a man or a woman of God. The day will come when God will come in the midst and then the hidden secrets of darkness, the times you buy out to spend with Him, will be rewarded. It is those hours that you are alone with Him, when you go out and share it in a spiritual way are the things that God will come one day and reward and praise you for. Then God will show the people that criticized you when you said something that happened the night before you said it. Then the hidden secrets that you've got in darkness will receive praise.

Do not judge! Even when someone sins, do not judge. The moment he went away from you, he could have asked forgiveness and you were not there. God forgave him, but you walk around with criticism. The day will come when God will reveal the times he got into the secret place of darkness and He will bring it to light and people will be put to shame.

COVERED WITH GOD OR THE WORLD

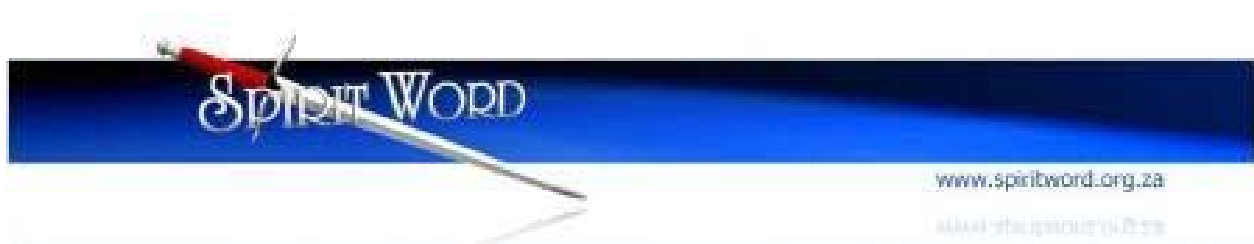
Our covering is under shadow of His wings. Isaiah 30, Acts 2, Luke 24:49 says that you shall be clothed or covered or be arrayed in, you shall be dressed up and you shall be clothed with power from on High after the Holy Spirit has come upon you. Acts 1:8 says that you shall receive power after the Holy Spirit has come upon you, but Luke says that you shall be covered with that power. Now we know where to get it: under the shadow of the wings in thick darkness.

Isaiah 30:1-17 (KJV) Woe to the rebellious children, says the LORD, that take counsel, but not of me; and that COVER WITH A COVERING, but NOT OF MY SPIRIT, that they may add sin to sin. That walks to go down into Egypt, and have not asked at MY MOUTH; to strengthen themselves in the strength of Pharaoh, and to trust in the SHADOW OF EGYPT! Therefore shall the STRENGTH OF PHARAOH BE YOUR SHAME, and the trust in the shadow of Egypt your confusion. For his princes were at Zoan, and his ambassadors came to Hanes. They were all ashamed of a people that could not profit them, nor help nor profit, but a shame, and also a reproach. The burden of the beasts of the south: into the land of trouble and anguish, from WHENCE COME THE YOUNG AND THE OLD LION, THE VIPER AND FIERY FLYING SERPENT, they will carry their riches upon the shoulders of young asses, and their treasures upon the bunches of camels, to a

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people that shall not profit them. For the Egyptians shall help in vain and to no purpose: therefore have I cried concerning this, Their strength is to sit still. Now go, write it before them in a table, and note it in a book, that it may be for the time to come forever and ever. That this is a rebellious people, lying children, children that will not hear the law of the LORD: Which say to the seers, See not; and to the prophets: "Prophesy not unto us right things, speak unto us smooth things, prophesy deceits." Get you out of the way, turn aside out of the path, cause the Holy One of Israel to cease from before us. Wherefore thus says the Holy One of Israel, Because you despise this word, and trust in oppression and perverseness, and stay thereon. Therefore this INIQUITY SHALL BE TO YOU AS A BREACH READY TO FALL, swelling out in a high wall, whose breaking comes suddenly at an instant. And he shall break it as the BREAKING OF A POTTER'S VESSEL that is broken in pieces; he shall not spare: so that there shall not be found in the bursting of it a sherd to take fire from the hearth, or to take water withal out of the pit. For thus says the Lord GOD, the Holy One of Israel; IN RETURNING AND REST SHALL YOU BE SAVED; IN QUIETNESS AND IN CONFIDENCE SHALL BE YOUR STRENGTH: and you would not. But you said: "No; for we will flee upon horses; therefore shall you flee: and, We will ride upon the swift; therefore shall they that pursue you be swift. One thousand shall flee at the rebuke of one; at the rebuke of five shall you flee: till you be left as a beacon upon the top of a mountain, and as an ensign on a hill.

When you go to cities, everything is arrayed in light. When you go to worldly systems to get under the shadow of Egypt, it will be your covering. Then the hand of the LORD will not be upon you. Your covering is underneath the shadow of the place where you go to and spend your time. When you spend your time before a computer with worldly stuff, you are building a covering for yourself. You can either sit in the shadow of God or of the world. Matthew 21 & Luke 13 say that God wanted to gather Jerusalem as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings.

Isaiah 45:1-9(a) (KJV) Thus says the LORD to His anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have hold, to subdue nations before him; and I WILL LOOSE the loins of kings, to open before him the two leave gates; and the gates shall not be shut. I WILL GO BEFORE YOU, and make the crooked places straight: I WILL BREAK in pieces the gates of brass, and cut in sunder the bars of iron. And I WILL GIVE thee the TREASURES OF DARKNESS, and hidden riches of SECRET PLACES, that thou may know that I, the LORD, which call thee by thy name, am the God of Israel. For Jacob my servant's sake, and Israel mine elect, I have even CALLED THEE by thy name: I have surnamed thee, though thou have not known me. I AM THE LORD, and there is none else, there is no God beside me: I girded thee, though thou have not known me. That they may know from the rising of the sun, and from the west, that there is none beside me. I am the LORD, and there is none else. I form the light, and CREATE DARKNESS. I make peace, and create evil: I the LORD do all these things. Drop down, you heavens, from above, and let the skies pour down righteousness: let the earth open, and let them bring forth salvation, and let righteousness spring up together; I the LORD have created it. Woe unto him that strives with his Maker! Let the potsherd strive with the potsherds of the earth...



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