7-27-2025 Sunday Sermon Message
Meditation of the Week: Psalm 91:1-16
Text: Psalm 46:1-11
Title: **God as Our Eternal Refuge**

God told His chosen Israelites that God would be their eternal refuge when they were humbled before God:

" The eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms: and he shall thrust out the enemy from before thee; and shall say, Destroy them."(Deuteronomy 33:27)

Refuge refers to the place where a person in distress flees from suffering. In today's Word, God testifies that He is our refuge, strength, and help in our suffering. Even if the land disappears and the mountains are moved into the middle of the sea, we will not be afraid, and even if the sea water is hot and turbulent, we will not be afraid even if the sea water rises and the mountains shake.

The Bible also testifies that those who live in refuge under the shadow of the Almighty will be delivered from the trap of the new scoundrels and from the terrible plague, and that His truth will become a small shield and a great shield, not afraid of terror at night, arrows flying by day, plagues that prevail in the darkness, or destruction that devastates wastes at noonday, and that no plague will come, and that no plague will come near your tent, and that God will command His angels to guard you (Psalm 91).

Now, in the last days, as Jesus foretold, there is no longer a place to escape in this world:

" And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring;
[26] Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken."(Luke 21:25-26)

Sooner or later, when the Church of God is made a refuge in heaven and the great tribulation judgment comes upon the world, the world will no longer have a refuge:

"And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood;
[13] And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind.
[14] And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places.
[15] And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains;
[16] And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb:
[17] For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?"(Revelation 6:12-17)

There is no longer a place of refuge on this earth to take refuge from. As Jesus looked at these times, he comforted his disciples:

"Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.
[2] In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.
[3] And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.
[4] And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know."(John 14:1-4)

Jesus promised that when the time is fullfilled, He would move the church of God where His disciples were located to an eternal refuge in heaven before the judgment of the Great Tribulation. Psalm 46 testifies that the city of New Jerusalem, into which the Church of God will enter, will not be shaken:

"There is a river, the streams whereof shall make glad the city of God, the holy place of the tabernacles of the most High.
5 God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved: God shall help her, and that right early.
6 The heathen raged, the kingdoms were moved: he uttered his voice, the earth melted.
7 The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah."(Psalm 46:4-7)

He will move the Church of God to heavenly refuge, and judge the nations of the world, and finally establish His kingdom on the earth:

"He maketh wars to cease unto the end of the earth; he breaketh the bow, and cutteth the spear in sunder; he burneth the chariot in the fire.
10 Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth.
11 The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah."(Psalm 46:9-11)

The apostle Peter testified that in the last days people would appear and mock those who did not believe in the Lord Jesus Christ's return and judgment, and the judgment they would receive:

"Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts,
4 And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation.
5 For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water:
6 Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished:
7 But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.
8 But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.
9 The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."(2 Peter 3:3-9)

He testified that God will judge the heavens and the earth with fire and create new heavens and new earth, so that God Himself will truly be an eternal refuge:

"But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.
11 Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness,
12 Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?
13 Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.
14 Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless.(2Pet. 3:10-14)
Amen! Hallelujah!