

## The Earth is Trembling...Are You Afraid?

### Psalm 46

Fear, a dreaded enemy, can turn us into cowards at times. Fear is real, however, and anyone who tells you otherwise....don't buy anything from them. One thing for sure, we all long for a \_\_\_\_\_. This is a place where we have a genuine sense of \_\_\_\_\_. The trouble with your chosen place of \_\_\_\_\_ is that we do eventually have to leave it.

John 14 reveals to us that Jesus Himself is creating a refuge for us in glory that will last forever. I think many people plagued by fear are good with eternity...but, what about the next 10 minutes? Remember \_\_\_\_\_. Remember II Peter 1:3. "He's given us \_\_\_\_\_ that pertains to \_\_\_\_\_ and godliness." Most importantly, He has given us \_\_\_\_\_. You see, the best refuge is not really a place.

I. The Best Refuge is a \_\_\_\_\_.

This often-quoted Psalm begins in a powerful fashion. It begins with the word \_\_\_\_\_. It's the same word we find in Genesis 1:1. The One who created the universe, the heavens, the planets, the earth...also created \_\_\_\_\_. That

simple word is translated \_\_\_\_\_. It's called the \_\_\_\_\_ in the Hebrew language. While this word is plural, it's verb is singular. Digging a bit deeper into the word \_\_\_\_\_, you'd find its root concept is "to \_\_\_\_\_, to \_\_\_\_\_." He is a being who by His \_\_\_\_\_ evokes reverence and holy \_\_\_\_\_ because of His mighty works. As \_\_\_\_\_ He is the most \_\_\_\_\_ being in the universe. What is it that you are facing that is \_\_\_\_\_ than \_\_\_\_\_? In the midst of our fear, in our heart of hearts, fear tends to strangle everything out, doesn't it? Could it be that our perceptions of \_\_\_\_\_ here are more \_\_\_\_\_ than our understanding of \_\_\_\_\_?

The probable context of Psalm 46.....

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The Psalm begins abruptly with the word \_\_\_\_\_, signifying raw, awesome, unmatched power. Our earthly \_\_\_\_\_ must be \_\_\_\_\_ in the light of an all-consuming righteous, an all-knowing holy and all-powerful \_\_\_\_\_ who is also \_\_\_\_\_.

Notice as well the tense of the verb. ELOHIM \_\_\_\_\_ rather than \_\_\_\_\_ or even \_\_\_\_\_. Another thought here is the little word \_\_\_\_\_.

He is our refuge, our strength in distresses and He is \_\_\_\_\_.

II. The Best Refuge is \_\_\_\_\_.

The Psalmist then reveals how cataclysmic these events were to the inhabitants of Jerusalem. To the Jewish mind the strongest figure possible was that of a \_\_\_\_\_. Even the seas were "swelling." The entire earth is shaking, the seas are foaming...his comment, in the wake of these events? \_\_\_\_\_.

How was that possible? It must have been terribly \_\_\_\_\_ but I believe that's why the

Psalmist began with word \_\_\_\_\_. He was attempting, encouraging his readers to put their eyes on the CREATOR, His glory, His omnipotence, really, HIM.

What is it you genuine fear today? In the light of who \_\_\_\_\_ is and what \_\_\_\_\_ has done, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_, shouldn't we see \_\_\_\_\_ in the light of His Shadow? Is your fear greater than a roaring sea, a shaking mountain? Those are not the most power things on planet earth...nor is Covid-19.

\_\_\_\_\_ is.