

Sheltered!



“For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved” (John 3:17)

Sheltered

As I was taking my early morning run one day, it began to rain. It was just a light drizzle, so I didn't worry about it too much nor try to find shelter. One man laughed as I jogged past, "You should have run with an umbrella." I laughed at the idea too – run with an umbrella? How ridiculous!

But as I got around the corner, there were two women ahead of me, taking their brisk walk . . . with their opened umbrellas. Then I spotted another jogger coming towards me. "Ah," I thought, "I'm not the only one getting wet – she doesn't have an umbrella!" But as she got closer, I saw that she was wearing a hood to protect her head from the rain. Well, boys and girls, that light drizzle soon became quite a shower, and I got soaked from head to toe.

Now why was it that I was not protected from the rain? I saw the rain clouds as I began my morning's exercise, but I ignored them: I believed they would blow over, or that the rain would come later. So, I was not ready when the rain came.

This experience reminds me of a story in the Bible. I'm sure you have heard of Noah, the ark and the flood. Noah warned the people around him that rain was coming, that God was going to destroy the earth with a flood. He warned them for 120 years. But they did not believe him – they didn't think that any rain was coming, much more a flood!

Noah built a huge boat, an ark, as God had commanded him. But those people did not get in. Only Noah, his family and the animals that God sent, went into the ark. When the rains came, the people and animals inside the ark were safely sheltered. The ark was beaten by the rains, but it kept those inside safe. Those who were outside had no shelter from the rain of God's judgment and they were drowned.

Boys and girls, Noah's ark is a picture of the Lord Jesus. He was beaten by God's judgment for sin just like the ark was beaten by the rain. **“All thy waves and thy billows are gone over me” (Psa 42:7)**. He took the punishment for your sin so that He can be your shelter from God's judgment.

First, you need to realise that you are a sinner – **“For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God” (Romans 3:23)**. You also need to realise that God must punish sin – **“For the wages of sin is death” (Romans 6:23)**.

But God loves you. He does not want you to take on the punishment for sin yourself, so He sent His Son: **“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life” (John 3:16)**.

Trust the Lord Jesus as your Saviour, believe that He died for your sins. Confess your sins to Him, then He will become your Shelter. You will never have to feel God's judgment because the Lord Jesus already bore it for you. You will be totally sheltered for all eternity.

No. 9

Janice Allman

Scriptures from *The King James Version*

Want to know more? Write to: **Drawing Near Publications**
Prospect, St James, BB24010, Barbados, W.I. Tel 1 (246) 438-7423;
437-9619; 426-6961; 421-6341. Email sam@drawing-near.com
Listen to 'Wonderful Words of Life' Sundays on 97.5 FM at 10:00am