February 19, 2025

Because God is loyal and faithful

Ps. 64:10 The righteous will rejoice in the Lord and <u>take refuge</u> in Him; all the upright in heart will glory in Him!

The Hebrew phrase for *take refuge* is **ve cha sah** which means *to seek shelter, refuge or safety in Him.* Growing up in North Central Texas, I had a clear understanding of what shelter meant. We lived in what is known as Tornado Alley. We saw tornadoes on a fairly regular basis. Hence, we had a "storm cellar" in our back yard. This was a cold, concrete room, built underground with kerosene lanterns for light and an old cot and two cane bottom chairs. It always smelled wet and a little stale, but it was secure and safe during some terrible storms. The door was a heavy wooden door that lay flat against the entrance of the stairs with a rope attached to the inside. It was my job to hold the rope so that the wind would not open it, and the suction pull us out of our shelter. You can imagine how frightened I was on the inside. On one night, we hear the dreaded sound of the tornado that was coming very close. Hail was pounding on the door, and I thought this was going to be it! It was then that the door started opening and I was holding on with all my might. My grandpa hollered at me to let go, but I was afraid to let go. I finally realized why he said that, because I looked up and saw two pairs of legs. Our cousins had come to find shelter with us! They came in, and although there was quite a bit of damage above ground in many places, we were safe and sound in the shelter.

That is what it is like to look to the One Who is our refuge and our Strength. He will watch over us and we can always take refuge in Him. He is our "storm cellar." He is our Rock and our Salvation. He will uphold us with His mighty right hand.

Dear LORD, thank You that we can take refuge in You. You are our only hope and our security amid the storms of this life. We can trust in Your Almighty power. In Jesus Name, Amen