

COVER ME

Deut 33:12

The beloved of the Lord shall dwell in safety by him; and the Lord shall cover him all the day long, and he shall dwell between his shoulders. KJV

- I. The bible teaches much about the benefits of being under a covering
 - A. Deut 33:12 reveals the benefits of the “beloved” who live a life of obedience and place their life and ministry under biblical submission:
 1. it teaches we will dwell in safety, as the Lord provides His covering:
 - a. **Def Covering:** to be under protection
- II. **Spiritual covering is God’s idea**, and begins in the book of Genesis
 - A. Before the fall of man: Adam & Eve were covered with the GLORY of God
 1. Ps 8:5 For You have made him a little lower than the angels,
And You have **crowned** him with glory and honor.
 - a. **Crown:** is a covering / covers the head
 - b. when God created mankind He provided a spiritual covering for him: His glory
 - (1) crowned / covered man with His glory
 2. The definition of the word crown reveals the purpose & function Of the one providing the covering:
 - a. **Def Crowned:** to cover over, fence in, hedge in, defend, protect
 3. When we are willing to place our lives under a covering, we receive revelation & assurance of the promise of God in:
 - a. Rom 8:31 If God is for us, who can be against us? NKJV

- C. Adam and Eve **knew** they had been stripped of their spiritual covering when they fell into sin & they **understood** that they still had need of a covering:
1. Gen 3: 7 Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they **knew that they were naked**; and they sewed **fig leaves** together and made themselves **coverings**.
 - a. Adam & Eve sewed together fig leaves for a covering
 - (1) First manifestation of a **religious spirit** attempting to provide Spiritual covering for mankind
 - (2) they tried to cover their sin & provide man made salvation
 - (3) they tried to cover their need for a true covering / biblical Covering of their Heavenly Father
 - b. **the spirit of religion is still attempting to get believers and ministers to settle for fig leaves in the kingdom of God**, instead of a biblical covering:
 - (1) an example of this is seen when we attempt to **make brothers and sisters / or peers** our covering
 - (2) instead of being under the covering of a **spiritual father / mother / a pastor of a local church**
 - c. we see an example of this as **society** wears a fig leaves, instead of partaking of God ordained covering:
 - (1) teenagers abandon the family / a true biblical covering
 - (a) and join a gang & call it family
 - d. we are seeing society & government de-emphasis the value of **fathers in homes**
 - (1) as single parent families have more benefits than married couples with children
 - (a) you can get an apartment to a free education by simply being pregnant out of wed lock: FIG LEAVES / instead of family

D. Num 19:15 and every open vessel, which has no cover fastened on it, is unclean.

1. The scriptures teach that the **Born Again believer is the “vessel of God”**
 - a. 2 Tim 2:21 Therefore if anyone cleanses himself from the latter, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work.
 - b. But when we become “**OPEN VESSELS**”: no spiritual covering in our lives the bible says we become “unclean”

(1) **Def unclean:** foul in a religious sense, religious impurity, foul, defiled, polluted

(a) all due to no covering over our life / spirit: anything can enter in

2 In order to protect our life and spirit & be able to partake of the blessings & protection of spiritual covering we need to know what the biblical coverings are that God has ordained we partake of in life and ministry

3 Various biblical coverings:

- a. covering of Our Heavenly Father’s **presence** as we worship
He covers us as He did Israel in the wilderness:

(1) 2 Chron 5:12 and the Levites who were the singers, all those of Asaph and Heman and Jeduthun, with their sons and their brethren, stood at the east end of the altar, clothed in white linen, having cymbals, stringed instruments and harps, and with them one hundred and twenty priests sounding with trumpets —
13 indeed it came to pass, when 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 endures forever," that the house, the house of the Lord, was filled with a **cloud**,
14 so that the priests could not continue ministering because of the **cloud**; for the glory of the Lord filled the house of God.

- b. Covering of God’s **protection & guidance**

(1) Ps 105:39 He spread a cloud for a covering, And fire to give light in the night.

c. covering of the **anointing**

(1) Ps 133:1 Behold, how good and how pleasant it is For brethren to dwell together in unity!

2 It is like the precious oil upon the head, Running down on the beard, The beard of Aaron, **Running down on the edge of his garments. NKJV**

d. God **covers us with destiny in our mother's womb**

(1) Ps 139:13 For You formed my inward parts; You **covered me** in my mother's womb.

e. God **covered Adam & Eve after sin**

(1) Gen 3:21 Also for Adam and his wife the Lord God made tunics of skin, and **clothed them.**

(2) and we now have the covering of the **Blood of Jesus**

f. covering of **local church your spiritual family with** spiritual fathers & mothers: pastors

covering of **marriage / family**

(1) Ps 68:6 God sets the solitary in families;

g. covering of the **garments of salvation**

(1) Isa 61:10 For He has **clothed** me with the garments of salvation, He has **covered** me with the robe of righteousness,

h. covering of the **armor of God** Eph 6:10-18

3. **covering is a legitimate biblical concept of layers of protection and love over us**

a. People given the responsibility to provide covering in our life **offer**:

(1) relationships

(2) guidance & counsel

(3) they help insulate you from criticism

(4) and offer encouragement during times of discouragement

II. The covering of the **local church & spiritual father / mother** of the house / pastor plays a vital role in our life and walk with God:

A. But we can never partake of the benefits of such covering if we do not loose our independent spirit and mature spiritually

1. Both spiritual & natural family

Both spiritual & natural fathers and mothers

a. provide & **identity** into your life

(1) people not under a covering of church / family / natural & spiritual fathers

Mothers:

(a) wonder thru life aimlessly trying to find out who they are.....no identity

b. these type of believers & ministers become:

(1) self-reliant, self-promoting, self-protecting, & self-centered

(a) they are spiritual orphans bouncing from church to church
like orphans do in a foster care system

(b) trying to get people to focus on them, like they focus on themselves

c. these type of believers are usually very needy because:

(1) they do not know how to function in a natural or spiritual family
environment where all the attention is not focused on one person

B. Growing up spiritually / maturing is a process that takes place best when

We put down roots and become part of a family: natural & spiritual family

1. When Christians run from church to church they do not establish roots that are necessary in order to mature & produce fruit

a. they usually are not running to find God

b. they are running from maturity, responsibility & an environment that requires them to make commitment

C. Every Believer needs to mature into a spiritual son:

1. Does not matter if you are male or female...in the kingdom of God we are All to become sons:

a. **being a son means to have gone thru the process of maturity**

2. Jesus Christ had to first become a Son

a. Before He could become Saviour

b. Before Jesus ever performed one miracle or cast out a devil the Heavenly Father said this of Jesus:

(1) Luke 3:22 And the Holy Spirit descended in bodily form like a dove upon Him, and a voice came from heaven which said, "You are **My beloved Son; In You I am well pleased.**"

c. **God's ultimate goal** is to make us mature sons who represent Him in every way, Just as Jesus did

(1) John 5:19 he Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner.

(2) John 17:4 I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do.

3. Def "SON": builder of the family name

a. Jesus was a builder of the family of God name

b. Jesus life honored & glorified His Father

4. Every Born Again Christian is to mature into spiritual sons bringing honor to Their natural family name

a. bring honor to their **Heavenly Father** & and their **spiritual family name**

b. bring honor to their **earthly spiritual father / mother**

(1) One of the ten commandments instructs us in:

Ex 20:12 "**Honor your father and your mother**, that your days may be long upon the land which the Lord your God is giving you.

(2) Eph 6:2 "**Honor your father and mother**," which is the first commandment with promise:

3 "**that it may be well with you** and you may live long on the earth."

(a) This principle applies to Heavenly Father / Natural father & Mother / spiritual father & mother

D. **Timothy** is an excellent example of a spiritual son who brought to his Heavenly Father & the spiritual family name & honored his spiritual father the Apostle Paul: Phil 2:19 But I trust in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you shortly, that I also may be encouraged when I know your state.

20 For I have no one like-minded, who will sincerely care for your state.

21 For all seek their own, not the things which are of Christ Jesus.

22 But you know his proven character, that **as a son with his father he served With me in the gospel. NKJV**

1. Timothy had no natural father imparting the Gospel unto him

a. and he broke the fatherless curse and found a father in Paul

2. **Listen to the qualities & attributes found in a son:**

a. Like-minded with his spiritual father

b. sincerely caring for the people in the church

c. focused on Jesus Christ instead of himself

d. possessing proven character

e. behaved like a son toward his father

f. serving in the Gospel & serving The Lord along side his father

(1) Can we look at our lives and find the maturity & attributes of a “son” within us?

III. All through out scripture we find the principle of fathers / mothers....natural

And spiritual providing covering for their sons:

A. Ex 29:29 "And the **holy garments** of Aaron shall be his **sons'** after him, to be anointed in them and to be consecrated in them.

30 That **son** who becomes priest in his place shall put them on for seven days, when he enters the tabernacle of meeting to minister in the holy place.

1. **The garments of the father: Aaron were passed on to his son**

a. providing them with covering for ministry

(1) these garments passed from father to son carried the favor of God, & the Favor of their spiritual / natural father

b. and an extra portion of anointing for ministry: the anointing of their father

(1) these garments were passed from father to son, literally soaked in anointing Oil

(2) with each generation the anointing would be enriched & the fragrance would be enriched

(3) but this anointing is only passed under the spiritual principle of the covering
From father to son

(a) The father's role is to pass on identity thru providing a covering

(b) our natural & spiritual children must mature into "sonship" in order to
Be able to receive & partake of such a spiritual inheritance called the
"DOUBLE PORTION"

B. Gen 37:3 Now Israel loved Joseph more than all his children, because he was the son of his old age: and he made him a **coat of many colors**. ASV

1. Here we see a father: Israel providing his son / Joseph with a covering / coat of
Many colors

a. It was not until Joseph was wearing his father's covering that the **prophetic mantle was activated** in Joseph's life & he began to dream

(1) Gen 37:5 Now **Joseph had a dream**,

2. When we are willing to place our life under the covering of our godly natural & Spiritual fathers:

a. Things become activated in our life, that once were dormant

C. Boaz & Ruth

Ruth 3:9 He said, "Who are you?" And she answered, "I am Ruth your maid. So **spread your covering over your maid**, for you are a close relative." NASU

1 Before Ruth came under the covering of Boaz her Kinsman Redeemer

a.. **Boaz** is a type and shadow of Jesus Christ

2. Ruth 2:3 And she went, and came and **gleaned in the field** after the reapers: and her hap was **to light on the portion** of the field belonging unto Boaz, who was of the family of Elimelech. ASV

a. All Ruth could do was glean from the field

b. living on the left over of the field / just getting by in life

3. But when she told Boaz to "**spread your covering over me**"

a. **When Ruth placed her life under a covering:**

(1) **she went from gleaning to walking in the fullness of her inheritance**

4. When we are ready to place our life under the Lordship of Jesus Christ and Remain under that covering:

a. we walk into our inheritance

5. When we are willing to place our life under God's Spiritual Covering for our Life:
 - a. be it in the local church thru Spiritual fathers / mothers: pastor
 - b. our natural parents
 - c. covering of marriage and family
 - (1) we go from gleaning in life to our inheritance

IV. The importance of being under a covering when you go into spiritual warfare Is revealed in:

- A. Ps 140:7 O God the Lord, the strength of my salvation, You have **covered** my **head** in the **day of battle**.
 1. Do you know how many Christians run into the midst of spiritual warfare
And have no covering on their head in the day of battle
 - a. no home church
 - b. no pastor / no spiritual father / mother
 - c. no family: both natural & spiritual family
 - (1) or have the above in their life but the relationships are broken
 2. Note: "**covered my head**"
 - a. Covering protects my head from being deceived in spiritual battles of life
 - (1) covering on my head keeps me encouraged in the Lord
 - (2) covering keeps me on the right track in life
 - (3) covering enables me to silence the lies the devil speaks to my head
 - (4) covering helps prevent demonic spiritual strongholds being built in our mind
 - (5) covering helps me to avoid making wrong or carnal decisions
 - b. **Coverings for our head:**
 - (1) **Helmet of salvation:** Eph 6:17 And take the helmet of salvation,
 - (2) **the covering of your pastor / spiritual father/ mother**
 - (a) speaking godly counsel into our life
 - (b) teaching / training / preparing us for the glory of God
 - (3) the covering of you parents / family
 - c. **DO YOU HAVE YOUR HEAD COVERED IN OF THE BATTLE OF
LIFE & SPIRITUAL WARFARE?**
 - (1) LIFE SUBMITTED
 - (2) MINISTRY SUBMITTED

B. Ps 140:7 O God the Lord, the strength of my salvation, You have **covered my Head** in the day of battle.

1. **David wrote Ps 140 & he was a great warrior for the glory of God**

a. he defeated lions, bears. Giants, armies, discouragement

b. and do you know how David accomplished these things?

(1) **HE KEPT HIS HEAD UNDER GOD'S COVERING FOR HIS LIFE**

2. In 1 Samuel 17 we find **David facing Goliath** and the giant trying to fill David's Heart with fear & defeat:

a. vs 42-43 it says that Goliath disdained David because he was just a kid

(1) Goliath then cursed David

(2) Goliath threatened David and said I am going to feed your flesh to the birds

(3) Goliath even tried to fill David's head with lies & told him that His God Would not help him

b. Yet David was unmoved & was filled with faith instead of fear

(1) David was filled with victory instead of Defeat

(2) David knew God was with him & had not abandoned him

(3) and he responds to Goliath & says:

(1) 1 Sam 17:45 I come to you in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel,

1 Sam 17:46 This day the Lord will deliver you into my hand,

c. Ps 140:7 tells us why David had such confidence: "**You have covered my head in the day of battle**"

(1) David was not out doing his own thing when he ran across Goliath

David was operating under his covering:

(1) **He was on his father's mission** / Jessie : David's father sent his son to Bring cheese, wine & bread to his brothers....thus operating under the Covering & authority of his natural father

(2) Next we find David operating under the authority of the man who became A spiritual father to him: King Saul

(a) When David went out to face Goliath

(1) He was under the covering of His Heavenly Father thru a life of obedience

(2) David was under the covering of his earthly father: Jessie / as he walked Obedience to his father's missions

(3) David was under the authority of his spiritual father as King Saul sent This young man out into the midst of the battle

(4) and the Word of The Lord that David prophesied, came to pass & David
Killed the giant

(a) DAVID'S HEAD WAS COVERED IN THE DAY OF BATTLE

Which enabled him to slay his giant.....

(b) is yours?

V. Father / mothers: both natural & spiritual

A. Arise & raise up sons

B. Sons: arise and get your heads covered

1. and lets go into the battle

a. and experience the victory that Our Lord Jesus Christ has provided us