

# In the Shadow of Thy Wings

Our country is at present being severely battered in the storms of Brexit: devastating political, constitutional, and spiritual storms such as we have rarely known in this nation - not, perhaps, since the Civil War in the 17<sup>th</sup> century with which Brexit has some parallels, and many people are wondering what has brought our erstwhile stable nation to this point and what may be the outcome.

Similarly, there are occasions in our personal lives when we find ourselves tossed to and fro in tumultuous situations way beyond our control and we don't know if or how we may get through them.

It is in these turbulent times when we know not what to do or which way to turn that God longs for us, both nationally and personally, to cry out to Him that he may cover us in the shadow of His Almighty wings and calm the storm for us...

**Storms of life are raging, Precious Jesus, King of kings,  
Let me find a refuge in the shadow of thy wings.**

**Glorious words of wisdom refreshing as crystal springs  
Direct my trembling feet to the shadow of thy wings.**

**Love, joy, faith and hope in irrepressible streams  
I will always find these beneath the shadow of thy wings.**

**Joyous in thy presence, my soul, in rapture, sings  
Of loving warm embrace in the shadow of thy wings.**

**Sweet peace and comfort thy loving presence brings  
Will cause me to rejoice in the shadow of thy wings.**

The poem above, by Lydia Haga, comes from the Psalms:

**“Hide me under the shadow of thy wings” (Psalm 17:8).**

**“How excellent is thy lovingkindness, O God! Therefore the children of men  
put their trust under the shadow of thy wings” (Psalm 36:7).**

**“In the shadow of thy wings will I make my refuge” (Psalm 57:1).**

**“I cry unto thee, when my heart is overwhelmed ... For thou hast been a  
shelter for me ... I will trust in the covert of thy wings” (Psalm 61:1-4).**

**“Because thou hast been my help,  
therefore in the shadow of thy wings will I rejoice” (Psalm 63:7-8).**

**“He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the  
shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my  
fortress: my God; in Him will I trust ... He shall cover thee with His feathers,  
and under His wings shalt thou trust” (Psalm 91:1-4).**

One of my favourite hymns is *In Heavenly Love Abiding*, by Anna L. Waring, which too reminds us that God is bigger than the storm:

**In heavenly love abiding, no change my heart shall fear;  
And safe is such confiding, for nothing changes here:  
The storm may roar without me, my heart may low be laid;  
But God is round about me, and can I be dismayed?**

Whatever the future may hold for our country and for our own lives, all that really matters, as the pastor of our fellowship said in his recent sermons on Nehemiah, Job, and Jeremiah, is that God is ever faithful and unchanging, He is sovereign, and His eternal plans will come to pass. He asks us only to abide and trust in Him.

*May you know God's Almighty wings round about you this month,  
Elizabeth McDonald  
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(A slightly different version of this item first appeared in the October 2019 edition of the Frindsbury Baptist Church newsletter)