

Psalm 61

The connection to our Torah reading in Exodus is the mention of the Tabernacle (Psalm 61:4 - "I will abide in thy tabernacle for ever: I will trust in the covert of thy wings.")

Psalm 61:2 - "From the end of the earth will I cry unto thee, when my heart is overwhelmed: lead me to the rock that is higher than I."

overwhelmed = `ataph - covered over in darkness, about ready to faint

See **Psalm 142:3** - "When my spirit was overwhelmed within me, then thou knewest my path.... "

rock = *tzur* - Maimonides: It is a term denoting a mountain... It is also a term denoting a hard stone like flint... It is, further, a term denoting the quarry from which quarry-stones are hewn... In derivation from the third meaning of this equivocal term (quarry), the word was applied to G-d, who is also designated by the term "tzur."

First used in **Exodus 17:6** - in which Moses is told to "smite the rock" so the people could drink.

Psalm 61:4 - "I will abide in thy tabernacle for ever: I will trust in the covert of thy wings. Selah."

wings = *kanaph* - wing, skirt, corner of a garment

Psalm 91:4 - He shall cover (*sakkach* - the root of *sukkah*, to cover, to weave together) thee with his feathers, and under his wings (*kanaph* - wing, skirt, corner of garment) shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler.

Used when Boaz covers Ruth as an indication he is betrothed to her, taking her "under his wing."

- **Ruth 3:9** - "And he said, Who art thou? And she answered, I am Ruth thine handmaid: spread therefore thy skirt (*kanaph* - wing, skirt, corner of garment) over thine handmaid; for thou art a near kinsman."

"spread therefore thy skirt" was the idiom for becoming engaged to be married.

Previously, Boaz had used the same term for Ruth's trust in God:

- **Ruth 2:12** - "The LORD recompense thy work, and a full reward be given thee of the LORD God of Israel, under whose wings (*kanaph*) thou art come to trust."

Finally, this idea is displayed in John's vision in Revelation:

- **Revelation 7:15** - "Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell (skēnoō) among them."

"dwell among them" = "will spread his tabernacle over them"

The Bride of Christ is under the eternal protection and covering of God, dwelling on the mercy seat as the cherubim intertwine their wings over us, and the Shekinah Glory of God's presence envelops us on all sides.

Psalm 61:6 - "Thou wilt prolong the king's life: and his years as many generations."

The last three verses refer to David as type of Messiah - Christ perfectly keeps his vows and promises, and abides before God forever.

- **2 Corinthians 1:20** - "For all the promises of God in Him are Yea, and in Him Amen"

- **Hebrews 7:25** - "Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them."