HELEN SANDERS 3-21-2024 HIDDEN IN PLAIN SIGHT

One of the ways a mother hen protects her children is to pull them under her wings. They are safe there from any predator. When the mama chicken sees trouble coming, she calls to her chicks, and they come scurrying to get to safety under her wings. They are hidden even though the mother is in plain sight.

A story has been told of a raging fire that burned acres of forests. After the fire was put out, the firefighters went through the charred woods. They found a chicken there, with a charred body. They lifted it up and out came her baby chicks. She gave her life for her little ones. She protected them unto death. They were hidden in plain sight by their mother.

Psalm 91 speaks of dwelling in the secret place, but it also says in verse 4, **"He shall cover** thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler."

The word cover means to "fence in," defend, hedge in, to be shut up. God puts a hedge around us and protects us even though we may be in plain sight. He covers us with his feathers!

There were times that Jesus just walked through a crowd even when they tried to throw him over a cliff. No one could touch him until it was his time. He was hedged in with the Father.

There are days coming that we need to remember that we are "hidden in plain sight" also by abiding in the presence of God. Even if our enemies may invade our country, our defense is that hedge of protection.

It does not come without a cost. The key is to abide, which means to remain, to dwell, to lodge. We must take up residence in the presence of the Lord 24 hours a day. It does not mean an occasional visit to be under his feathers. We must be just like those baby chicks, who heard mama call to them, and they scurried to their protection. We must be so close to God that when he says come, we go immediately without hesitation. Then we are "hidden in plain sight" under his wings.