

# **THE SHIELD AND THE SHADOW**

## **PSALM 144**

Introduction:

What a vivid contrast! God is the shield of His people, but we are only a passing shadow. David was profoundly aware of the contrast between the God of Israel and Israel. God is everything! We are only a shadow.

This Psalm may have come out of his experience with Goliath. He entered that fray with a healthy awareness of his weakness and the Lord's strength. Or it is more likely a psalm that was written after he came to the throne. It would seem to include broader concerns that would be true at a time when he was enthroned, but still vulnerable to all of the enemies of Israel. The underlying truth of this psalm is true for us at every stage of life. We will always be just the shadow and God is the Shield.

### **I. AT HIS BEST MAN IS ONLY A SHADOW. (V. 3-4)**

1. He is as weak as a shadow in the real issues of life.
2. He is temporary like the shadow.
3. He is fragile like the shadow.
4. Yet God has taken note of him.

### **II. GOD IS OUR SHIELD.**

1. He gives the victory (v. 1-2) (5-10)
2. He prospers His people (v. 11-14)
3. He fulfills His people (v. 15)

Conclusion:

We should continually offer to God the praise that He deserves. Each new blessing calls for a new song, or a new expression of thanksgiving.

We should look to Him day by day for everything that we need. We may only be a shadow, but He is a faithful Source.