



**God is our shield, during COVID-19, and always!**

***A devotional by Heather Broeder***

God's Word is rich with imagery, and I love really camping out in one of the metaphors and trying to explore the depths of God's Word. Recently, I looked up every verse that described God as our shield. I really need a shield right now – a shield from anxiety, fear, the sin I'm led into because of these things, and a shield from a tiny organism called Coronavirus.

From Biblical times to Medieval times, shields have been instrumental in providing protection. You don't go into battle without one. The shield is a defense. But shields are also interesting because there is a sense of belonging. When you take up a shield, and there are colors and symbols – you are connected to a family and an identity. That's true for the shield God offers us – we belong to HIM.

There are reminders of shields all around us – gloves, masks, goggles, and we are shielding our kids all the time – filtering media, keeping them isolated... let these tiny, finite shields remind you of the perfect shield we all have in our perfect Lord.

These are overwhelming days – we don't have a timeline – we don't have a clear plan. We're not sure what the future holds for us in terms of schedule, health, finances, our fitness routine, our kids' orthodontic plan and more. We are all feeling (subconsciously or very consciously) the effect of this uncertainty. So, we MUST focus on what is certain. God's Word and God's character are certain. God's willingness and desire to care for us and protect us and SHIELD us through all of this IS certain. We can know God's peace through faith in Jesus. He offers us eternal life and perfect peace through. So, in closing, I've listed a few Scriptures (there are MANY) about God being our shield. I want you to allow these words to wash over you. Receive these as Truth – as certain today as they were thousands of years ago and as certain as this Truth will be in a thousand years from now.

**Psalm 3:3**

But You, O LORD, are a shield about me, My glory, and the One who lifts my head.

**Psalm 18:2**

The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, My God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, My shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

**Psalm 33:20**

Our soul waits for the LORD; He is our help and our shield.

**Genesis 15:1**

After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, saying, "Do not fear, Abram, I am a shield to you; Your reward shall be very great."

**Ephesians 6:16**

In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one.