

Tuesday 19th May 2020

Deuteronomy 33:27 Moses song.

*"The eternal God is your refuge,
And underneath are the everlasting arms.
He will drive out your enemy before you,
Saying, 'Destroy him!'*

John 16:33

*"I have told you these things so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble.
But take heart! I have overcome the world."*

In adversity it is expected that we show courage and fortitude but we do not always feel courageous or strong particularly when we face a threat to our own lives or those of our loved ones. In Deuteronomy Moses, high unto death, sings a song of encouragement to his sons and asks God to bless them individually for their talents. Verse 27 is part of the blessing on Asher who will need courage for protecting the Israelites from their enemies. Asher is exhorted to put his faith in God; to be his refuge in adversity.

This chimes with John 16:33 where Jesus, having heard the disciples say that they believed in him, tells them to 'take heart'. We might say 'Take courage, be not afraid.' Jesus, and through Him, the Father will be our refuge. We need this faith, this strength, this courage as we face the current invisible enemy. Then when it is defeated we shall find peace.